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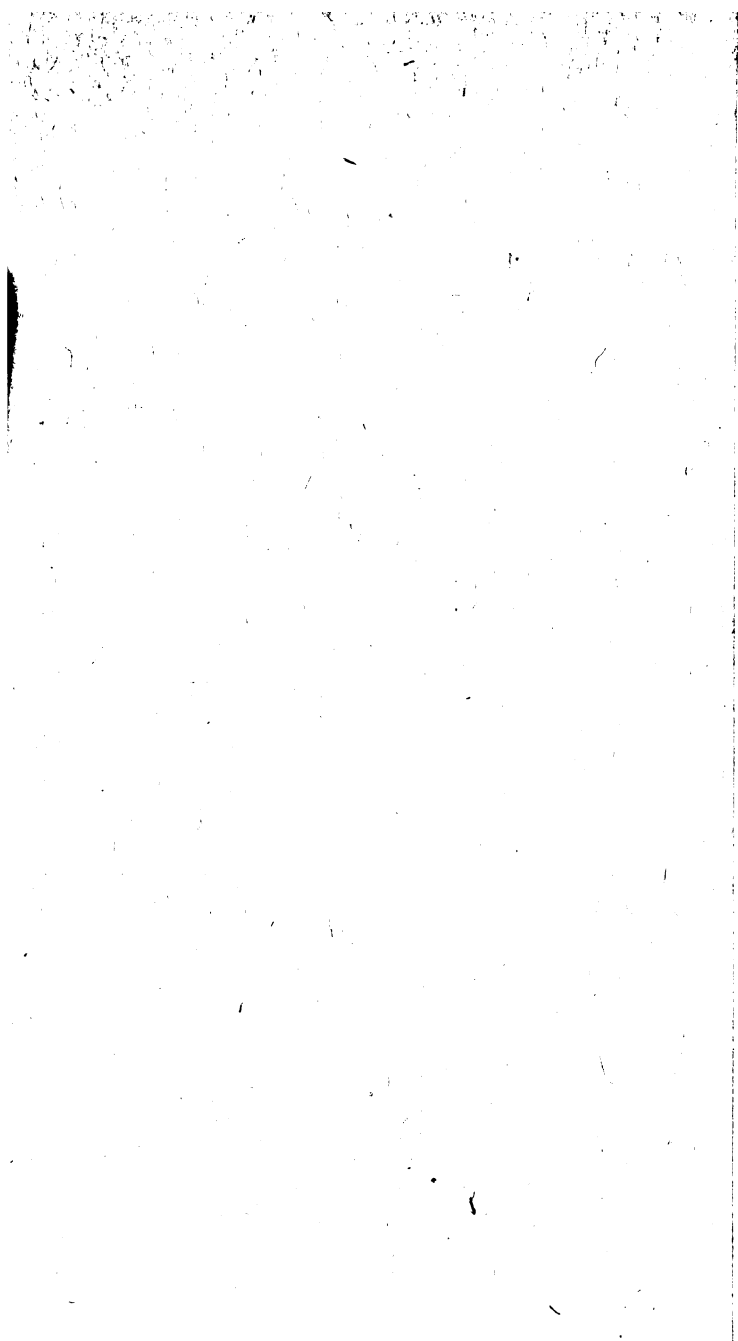
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Boethius

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**KING ALFRED'S**

**ANGLO-SAXON VERSION OF THE METRES**

**OF**

*Anicius Manlius Torquatus Severinus*  
**BOETHIUS,**

**WITH**

**AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION, AND NOTES;**

**BY**

**THE REV. SAMUEL FOX, M. A.**

**OF PEMBROKE COLLEGE, OXFORD;**

**TRANSLATOR OF THE POETICAL CALENDAR OF THE ANGLO-SAXONS**

**LONDON :**

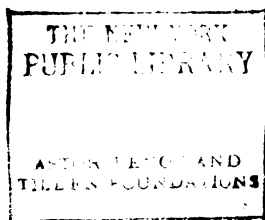
**WILLIAM PICKERING, CHANCERY LANE :**

**J. H. PARKER; AND WILLIAM GRAHAM, OXFORD: AND**

**T. COMBE, JUNIOR, LEICESTER.**

**M.DCCC.XXXV.**

*S.M.D.*



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## PREFACE.

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THE increasing taste for Saxon literature rendering it desirable that those works which contain the purest specimens of the language of our forefathers should be made accessible to every student, I have been induced to complete that which was so ably commenced by J. S. Cardale, Esq.; but, at the same time, I cannot avoid expressing my unfeigned regret, that this portion of the work did not fall into those hands, which proved their competency to the task, by the publication of a correct and elegant edition of the prose part of King Alfred's version of Boethius.

The only complete printed edition of the Anglo-Saxon version of the Metres of Boethius is that of

Rawlinson, which was printed in Oxford in the year MDCXCVIII; and the only manuscript of this work, at present known to be in existence, is the transcript which Junius made from a Cottonian one, which was afterwards destroyed in the unfortunate fire when so many Cottonian MSS. fell a prey to the devouring element. The transcript is preserved among the Junian MSS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford; and the edition of Rawlinson merely professes to be a correct copy of it; and it certainly is extremely correct in this respect; for having carefully collated Rawlinson with the manuscript of Junius, I found so few and such trifling typographical errors, as to render it unnecessary to notice them. In the present edition I found it requisite to alter the reading of a few words; and as the manuscript of Junius was prior to Rawlinson's edition, the reference in the alteration of the reading, when it occurs, is made to it, and the alterations will all be found acknowledged in the notes.

The ancient Anglo-Saxon manuscript of Boethius in the Bodleian Library, merely contains the prose.

Although both Junius and Rawlinson are deserving of the highest praise for the correctness

of their readings, they are not entitled to the same for the accuracy of their metrical punctuation. In their days the principles of Saxon versification were scarcely known; and while one party saw, what they fancied was an elaborate system in imitation of the Greek and Latin metres, another party who could not discover this, concluded that there was no system at all. For the subsequent discoveries we are chiefly indebted to Rask. When, however, we consider the difficulties which men like Junius, Rawlinson, and Hickes, had to contend with, the errors which they committed ought to be forgotten in grateful admiration of what they actually accomplished.

Alliteration is now ascertained, beyond all doubt, to be the chief characteristic of Saxon verse; and this is also accompanied with a rythm which clearly distinguishes it from prose; but in many parts of these Metres, as they stand in Junius and Rawlinson, there is neither alliteration nor rythm; to say nothing of the obscurity which arises from this faulty collocation. It has, therefore, been my endeavour in this edition to restore the text to what I conceive to have been its original purity, by preserving the alliteration and rythm; and by this change in the punctuation,



the sense of passages which before was in many places doubtful, is become clear and obvious. This alteration, as it is merely a change in the punctuation without any variation in the original orthography, will not, I trust, be considered an unpardonable liberty. There is, as I have observed, no manuscript of the Metres of Boethius extant, besides a transcript of Junius; and as Junius has been convicted of faulty punctuation in a transcript which he made of Cædmon,\* and as many passages in these Metres are totally devoid of all claim to verse as they stand in his copy, while the change which has been made in the present edition for the most part restores their poetical form, it is not too much to suppose that this work has also suffered from the inaccuracy of Junius. Rawlinson faithfully following him, of course preserved all his errors. The continuous lines in which the ancient MSS. are written, the verses being merely divided by a point, rendered inaccuracies like those here complained of highly probable.

The change in punctuation occurring very frequently, it would be tedious to remark upon

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\* Vide p. xiv. of Preface to Thorpe's edition of Cædmon; a work which cannot be too highly estimated by the Saxon student.

every case; the reader is, therefore, referred to Rawlinson's edition, if he question the correctness of the present text. As it has been my desire to present a pure and correct edition of the Saxon text, I hope those who differ with me in opinion will consider the difficulty as well as importance of the undertaking.

There are no accents in the Junian manuscript, and I have not introduced any into this volume, as I have great doubts of their being admissible, unless they occur in ancient MSS. Whenever this is the case, I acknowledge their great importance.

With regard to my translation, I fear exceptions will be taken to some parts of it. I have endeavoured to give a literal version, and at the same time to preserve in the translation a portion of the rythm which is found in the Saxon; and where failures exist, they arise rather from the difficulty of the passage, than from a want of diligence in making the translation correct.

For remarks on the general character of the Anglo-Saxon version of Boethius, I would refer the reader to the prose edition before mentioned, to which this volume is intended as a supplement. I beg to offer my sincere acknowledgments

to J. S. Cardale, Esq. and B. Thorpe, Esq. F. A. S. to whose friendship and assistance I am deeply indebted.

With these prefatory remarks the Metres of Boethius are presented to the public; and it is the Editor's earnest wish, that each succeeding publication of the remains of our early authors will stimulate the desire to rescue from the corroding hand of time these interesting relics of former ages.

**THE METRES OF  
BOETHIUS.**



## INTRODUCTION.

---

Ður Ælfred ur.  
eald-ƿell ƿeahƿe.  
Lýning ƿest-ƿexna.  
cƿæƿt melbode.  
leoð-ƿýhta lýt.  
Ðim ƿæƿ lýt micel.  
þæt he þioƿrum leodum.  
leoð ƿpellode.  
monnum mýrgen.  
mýrlice cƿiðar.  
þý læƿ ælinge.  
utaðƿiƿe.  
ƿelƿlicne ƿecg.  
þonne he ƿƿelceƿ lýt.  
gýmð ƿon hiƿ gylpe.  
Ic ƿceal giet ƿƿnecan.  
ƿon on ƿitte.  
ƿolc-cuðne ƿæð.  
hæleþum ƿecgean.  
hlýte ƿe þe ƿille.

Thus Alfred to us  
An ancient story related;  
The King of the West-Saxons  
Displayed *his* art,  
5 His poetic skill.  
To him was great desire,  
That he to these nations  
Should teach poetry,  
The delight of men,  
10 Various sayings;  
Lest weariness  
Should reject  
The self-same speech.  
But he thereby little  
15 Cares for his own glory.  
I will nevertheless speak,  
Begin a song,  
A discourse known to nations,  
To men will speak,  
20 Attend who will.

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## METRE I.

---

Ðit pær geara iu.  
þætte Gotan eartan.  
of Scirðia.

rcelðar læddon.  
þneate geþrungon.  
þeod-lond monig.  
retton ruðpearðer.  
rige-þeoda tra.  
Gotene rice.

gear-mælum peox.  
hæfðan him gecynde.  
cýningas tpegen.

Rædgod and Alepic.  
rice geþungon.

Ða pær ofer muntgior.  
monig atýhted.

Gotas gylper full.  
guðe gelyfted.

folc-geþinner.  
pana hpearfode.

It was long ago,  
That *the* eastern Goths  
From Scythia,  
Led *their* armies,

5 Oppressed with troops,  
Many nations.  
*They* established southward,  
Two victorious nations;  
*The* kingdoms of the Goths

10 Yearly increased;  
They had of their own race  
Two kings,  
Rhadgast and Alaric,  
*Who* obtained the supreme power.

15 Then was over *the* Alps  
Many a Goth allured,  
Full of arrogance,  
Desirous of *the* conflict,  
Of *the* battle-fray.

20 *The* banner waved



ƿcƿ on ƿceafte.	Bright on <i>the</i> shaft ;
ƿceotend þohton.	Appeared shooting
Italia.	Italy
ealle <sup>a</sup> ƿeƿonƿan.	All through,
lind-ƿiƿende.	25 <i>The</i> warriors with shields,
hiƿelæƿtan.	Heedless of <i>danger</i> ;
ƿƿua efne ƿƿom muntƿiop.	Even from the Alps,
oð þone mæƿan ƿearoð.	To that illustrious shore,
þæƿ Sicilia.	Where Sicily
ƿæ-ƿtneamum	30 In the sea streams,
in eƿlond micel.	A mighty island nation
efel mæƿƿað.	Is celebrated.
Ða ƿæƿ Romana.	Then was <i>the</i> empire
ƿice ƿeƿunnen.	Of <i>the</i> Romans conquered,
abƿocen buƿƿa cƿƿt.	35 <i>The</i> city's splendour spoiled.
beadu-ƿincum ƿæƿ.	By <i>the</i> soldiers was
Rom ƿeƿƿmed.	Rome laid open ;
Rædƿot and Aleƿic.	Rhadgast and Alaric
ƿonon on þæt ƿæƿten.	Went into the citadel ;
ƿleah Cæƿe. <sup>b</sup>	40 Cæsar fled
mið þam æƿelingum.	With the princes
ut on Gƿeƿaƿ.	Out to the Greeks. [not
Ne meahƿe þa ƿeo ƿea laƿ.	Then the miserable remnant could
ƿiƿe ƿonƿtandan.	Withstand in battle,
Grotan mið ƿuðe.	45 <i>The</i> Goths in <i>the</i> conflict ;
ƿio monna ƿeƿƿƿion.	The former wealth of men

<sup>a</sup> M S. ealla.

<sup>b</sup> Cæpe in these metres simply denotes the highest regal power.

ldon unpillum.  
 eþel pearðar.  
 halize aþar.  
 ær gehwæþereþ paa.  
 Deah þær mago-þınca.  
 mod mid Græcum.  
 gif hi leod-þnuman.  
 lærtan ðorþten.  
 Stod þrage on þam.  
 þeod þær gepunnen.  
 þintpa mænigo.  
 oð þæt þýrð geþcraþ.  
 þæt þe þeodþice.  
 þegnaþ and eoplaþ.  
 heþan ſceoldan.  
 Þær ſe ðeþetema,  
 Grifte gecnoden.  
 cýning ſelfa onþeng.  
 fulluht þeapum.  
 Fægnodon ealle.  
 Romþapa beapn.  
 and him þecene to.  
 þriþer þilnedon.  
 He him fæfte gehet.  
 þæt hy eald-þihta.  
 ælceþ morten.  
 þýrþe gepunigen.  
 on þære þelegan þýrþ.  
 þenden God þuolde.

Unwillingly gave up  
 The guardians of *their* country:  
 Sacred oaths *were broken*:  
 50 Everywhere was woe.  
 Yet was *the* mind  
 Of *the* citizens with *the* Greeks  
 If they leaders  
 Dared to follow.  
 55 *The* course of time in which  
*The* people were subdued,  
 Was many a winter;  
 Until that fate ordained,  
 That Theodoric,  
 60 Thanes and earls  
 Should obey.  
 The chieftain was  
 Dedicated to Christ;  
*The* king himself received  
 65 *The* rite of baptism.  
*The* children of *the* Romans  
 All rejoiced,  
 And with him straight  
 Desired peace.  
 70 He to them firmly promised,  
 That they of each  
 Of their ancient rights,  
 Should remain possessed,  
 In that wealthy city,  
 75 While God would,

þæt he Godena gepealb.

agan morþe.

He þæt eall aleaȝ.

pær þæm æþelinge.

Arrianer.

gedpola leofne.

þonne Drihtner æ.

Det Iohanner.

godne Papan.

heafde beheapon.

nær ꝥ hæplic dæd.

eac þam pær unrim.

oðner maner.

ꝥ se Gota fremede.

godra gehwylcum.

Ða pær wicra sum.

on Rome byrig.

ahæfen Dehetoga.

hlaforde leof.

þenden Eýnerþole.

Eneacær woldon.

Ðæt pær rihtwyr winc.

pær\* mid Romwyrum.

winc-geofa wella.

riðþan longe he.

pær for weorlde wyr.

That he *the* power of the Goth  
Should have.

He all that retracted ;

To the prince

80 The Arian heresy

Was more pleasing,

Than *the* law of *the* Lord.

*He* commanded John,

The good pope,

85 To be beheaded :

That was not a laudable deed ;

Besides, there was countless

Wickedness of other kinds,

Which the Goth perpetrated,

90 *Against* every one of *the* good.

Then was a certain noble,

In Rome's city,

Appointed consul,

Dear to *his* lord,

95 While *the* Greeks

Possessed *the* metropolis.

He was a righteous man.

*He* was among the Romans

A bestower of gifts.

100 Long since he

Was wise in worldly matters,

\* MS. nær. This must have been an error of the scribe, as Boethius had the reputation of great liberality. See Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*, chap. 39.

ð-mýnþa ȝeoƿn.	Desirous of glory,
ƿn boca ȝleap.	A man skilled in books,
tiur.	Boethius,
his hæle hatte.	105 The man was called :
ƿ þone hliȝan ȝeþah. <sup>d</sup>	He the report heard.
Ƴær him on ȝemýnde.	He kept in mind,
næla ȝehƿilce.	Continually,
ƿel and eðƿit.	The evil and contumely,
æt him elþeodȝe.	110 That to them,
ȝýningaȝ cýðdon.	Foreign kings had spoken.
ƿær on Eneacar hold.	<i>He</i> was to the Greeks faithful,
ȝemunde þara ana.	<i>He</i> remembered the honours,
and eald-ȝihta.	And ancient rights,
þe hiȝ elþan.	115 Which his ancestors
mið him ahton longe.	With them long possessed,
luȝan and liȝra.	<i>The</i> love and favour.
Angan þa liȝtum ýmbe.	<i>He</i> then began cautiously,
þencean þeapflice.	Carefully to meditate,
hu he þideȝ meahte.	120 How he then might
Eneacar oncerpan.	Bring over the Greeks ;
þæt ȝe Earene.	That the Cæsar,
eȝt anƿalð oȝeȝ hi.	Again power over them
agan moȝte.	Might obtain.
ȝende æƿenð-ȝeppit.	125 <i>He</i> sent letters

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<sup>d</sup> ȝeþah is not rendered according to the usual translation ; but the context required the sense here given : perhaps Alfred used the word figuratively.

eald-hlafordum.	To <i>the</i> ancient lords,
degelice.	Secretly :
and hi for Drihtne bæd.	And them by the Lord prayed,
ealdum treopum.	By <i>their</i> former troth,
þæt hi æft to him.	130 That they again to him,
comen on þa ceartre.	Would come into the city ;
lete Græca witan.	<i>He</i> would let the Greek nobles
prædan Romwara.	Decree to the Romans,
rihtes wylde.	According to law. [people.
lete þone leodscipe	135 <i>He</i> would give permission to the
Ða þa lafe ongeat.	Then discovered the design
Deodric Amuling.	Theodoric the Amuling,
and þone þegn oferfeng.	And seized the thane ;
heht fæstlice.	<i>He</i> commanded his nobles,
for-gewear.	140 Firmly to hold
healdon þone here-winc.*	The consul.
præf him hreoh sefa.	His mind was troubled
ege fram þam eorle.	With fear of the earl ;
he hine inne.	<i>He</i> commanded <i>them</i>
heht on carcerne.	145 To lock him
clurter belucan.	In a prison cell.
Ða præs mod-sefa.	Then was <i>his</i> mind
miclum gedreped.	Greatly troubled ;
Boetius.	Boethius
brec longe ær.	150 Long before enjoyed,
plencea under polcnum.	Splendour under <i>the</i> clouds,

---

\* MS. here-winc.

he þȳ pȳȳr meahȳe.	He the worse could
þolian þa þȳage.	Endure the course of events,
þa hio ſȳa þearl becom.	When it so heavy came.
ſȳe þa oȳmod eoȳl.	155 Then was <i>the</i> earl dejected,
aȳe ne pende.	<i>He</i> thought not of honour,
ne on þam ſȳetene.	Nor in that fastness,
ſȳoȳne ġemunde.	Cared for consolation ;
ac he neopol aȳtȳeahȳe.	But he stretched <i>himself</i>
niþeȳ oȳ dune.	160 Down prostrate below ;
ſeoȳ on þa ſloȳe.	<i>He</i> fell on the floor,
ſela poȳða ſȳȳæc.	<i>And</i> uttered many words,
ſoȳþoht þearle.	Greatly despairing :
ne pende þonan æȳȳe.	Nor thought from thence ever
cuman oȳ þæm clammum.	165 To come from those fetters ;
cleopode to Dȳihte.	<i>He</i> cried to <i>the</i> Lord,
ġeomȳan ſȳemne.	With mournful voice,
ġȳddode þuȳ ::	<i>And</i> thus sung.

METRE II.<sup>1</sup>

Dȳæt ic hioða ſela.	BEHOLD I many lays,
luȳtlice ġeo.	With delight formerly,
ſanc on ſælum.	Sung in <i>my</i> prosperity ;

<sup>1</sup> Boet. Lib. i. Metrum i.Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi, &c.  
The metres of Boethius, strictly speaking, begin here.

nu ſceal ſioſigende.  
 pope ȝepæȝed.  
 ꝛneccæ ȝiomor.  
 ſingan ſan-cꝛidaȝ.  
 Me þioſ ſiccetunȝ haſað.  
 aȝæled þeſ ȝeocſa.  
 ꝥ ic þa ȝed ne mæȝ.  
 ȝeſeȝean ſpa ſæȝne.  
 þeah ic ſela ȝio þa.  
 ſette ſoð-cꝛida.  
 þonne ic on ſælum pæſ.  
 Ofſ ic nu miſcȝꝛne.  
 cuðe ſꝛnæce.  
 and þeah uncuðne.  
 æn hꝛilum ſonð.  
 me þaſ ſopulð ſælða.  
 pel hꝛæp<sup>s</sup> blindne.  
 on þiſ ðimme hol.  
 ðȝꝛine ſopulæddon.  
 and me þa beſȝꝛton.  
 nædeſ and ſꝛoſſe.  
 ſop heopa untꝛeopum.  
 þe ic him æſne beȝȝe.  
 tꝛupian ſceolde.  
 hi me topendon.  
 heopa bacu bitepe.

Now ſhall I ſorrowing,  
 5 Weighed down with weeping,  
 A ſad wretch,  
 Sing mournful ſongs !  
 Me this ſighing has  
 Hindered,—this ſobbing,  
 10 That ſongs I cannot  
 So fair compoſe ;  
 Though I formerly many  
 True maxims arranged,  
 When I was in proſperity.  
 15 Oft I now wander  
 From well-known ſpeech,  
 And yet more unknown  
 Formerly found.  
 This world's goods  
 20 Me, well nigh blinded,  
 Into this gloomy hole,  
 Fooliſh conducted ;  
 And me then deprived  
 Of counſel and conſolation,  
 25 Through their perfidy.  
 When I would ever beſt  
 Rely upon them,  
 They on me turned  
 Their bitter backs,

and heopa blisse fram.	30 And their bliss from <i>me took</i> .
Fonham wolde ge.	Wherefore would ye,
peowulf frýnd mine.	My worldly friends,
fecgan oðþe fingan.	Declare or sing,
þæt ic gefælic mon.	That I a happy man
þære on peowulde.	35 Was in <i>the</i> world?
ne fýnt þa word foth.	These are not true words,
nu þa gefæliþa ne magon.	Since prosperity may not
fimle gefunigan. <sup>a</sup>	always remain.

METRE III.<sup>1</sup>

Æala on hu grimnum.	ALAS! in how grim,
and hu grundleasum.	And how bottomless
feaðe finceð.	A gulf labours
þæt fpeowcende mod.	The darkling mind,
þonne hit þa ftronzan.	5 When it the strong
ftronmar beatað.	Storms lash,
peowulf-bifgunza.	Of worldly cares:
þonne hit finnende.	When it <i>thus</i> contending,
his agen leot.	Its proper light
an folæteð.	10 Once forsakes,

<sup>a</sup> These sentiments are similar to those expressed by Solon in his discourse with Cræsus, as described by Herodotus.

<sup>1</sup> Boet. Lib. i. Metrum ii.

Heu, quam præcipiti mersa profundo, &c.



and mid uua forȝit.	And in woe forgets
þone ecan ȝeƿean.	The everlasting joy,
þringð on þa þioȝtno.	And rushes into the darkness
þyrre ƿorulde.	Of this world,
forȝum ȝerƿenced.	15 Afflicted with cares !
ƿpa iſ þiſſum nu.	Thus has it now befallen
mode ȝelumpen.	This <i>my</i> mind ;
nu hit mape ne ƿat.	Now it no more knows
for Gode ȝodeſ.	Of good for God,
buton ȝnoſnunȝe.	20 But lamentations,
ƿremðne ƿorulde.	For <i>the</i> external world :
him iſ ƿroſne þearf.	To it is need of comfort.

## METRE IV.\*

Æala þu ſciƿpend.	O, thou Creator
ſciſſa tunȝla.	Of the bright stars,
heƿoneſ and eorþan.	Of heaven and earth ;
þu on heah-ſetle.	Thou on thy throne
ecum ſiċſaſt.	5 Eternal reignest :
and þu ealne hƿæðe.	And thou swiftly all
heƿon ȝimbheapſeſt.	<i>The</i> heaven turnest round ;
and þuþ þine halȝe miht.	And by thy holy power,
tunȝlu ȝenedeſt.	<i>The</i> stars compellest,

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\* Boet. Lib. i. Met. v. O stelliferi conditor orbis, &c.

þæt hi þe to hepað.	10 That they thee obey !
ƿpýlce ƿeo ƿunne.	Thus the sun
ƿƿeaƿtƿa nihta.	Of <i>the</i> swart nights
þioſtƿo aƿƿæſceð,	<i>The</i> darkness dispels,
þuƿh þine meht.	Through thy power.
blacum leohte.	15 With pallid light
beoƿhte ƿteoƿƿan.	<i>The</i> bright stars
mona ƿemetƿað.	<i>The</i> moon tempers,
þuƿh þinƿa meahta ƿƿeð.	Through the effect of thy power :
hƿilum eac þa ƿunƿan.	Sometimes also the sun,
ƿineſ beƿeaƿað.	20 Of her <sup>1</sup> bright light
beoƿhtan leohteſ.	Bereaves,
þonne hit ƿebýƿiƿan mæƿ.	When it may happen
þæt ƿƿa ƿeneahƿne.	That so near
neðe ƿeoƿþað.	<i>He</i> necessarily is.
ƿƿelce þone mæƿan.	25 Also the fair
monƿenſteoƿƿan.	Morning star,
þe ƿe oðƿe naman.	That we by another name,
æƿenſteoƿƿa.	Evening star
nemƿan hepað.	Hear called ;
þu ƿeneðeſt þone.	30 Thou compellest him,
þæt he þæƿe ƿunƿan.	That he the sun's
ƿið beƿiƿiƿe.	Path keeps,

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<sup>1</sup> In many of the Asiatic, and in all the ancient northern languages of Europe, the gender of the sun is feminine, and that of the moon is masculine ; and this peculiarity is to be met with in Shakspeare. See First Part of Henry the Fourth, Act i. Scene 2. See also Diversions of Purley, Taylor's Edition, vol. i. p. 53.

geapa gehpelce.	Every year ;
he gongan ſceal.	He shall go,
beſoþan ſeþan.	35 Shall advance before.
Ðræt þu fæder ſeþceſt.	Behold, thou O Father, makest
ſumur-lange dagaſ.	Summer long days,
ſpīðe hate.	Very hot :
þæm winter-dagum.	To winter days
þundrum ſceopra.	40 Wondrously short
tiða getiohhaſt.	Times appointest !
Ðu þæm treorum ſeleſt.	Thou to the trees givest
ſuþan and ſeſtan.	<i>The</i> south and west <i>wind</i> ;
þa ær ſe ſpærta ſtopm.	Which before the black storms
noſþan and eaſtan.	45 North and east
benumen hæfe.	Had deprived
leaſa gehpelceſ.	Of every leaf,
þurh þone laðþan þind.	Through the more hostile wind.
Eala hræt on eoþþan.	Behold on earth,
ealla geſceapra.	50 All creatures
hýnað þinre hæfe.	Obeý thy command ;
doð on heoþonum ſpa ſome.	<i>And</i> do in heaven the same,
mode and mægne.	With mind and might ;
butan men anum.	But man alone,
ſe pið þinum pillan.	55 Who againſt thy will
þýpceð oftoſt.	Oſtenest worketh.
Þella þu eca.	O thou eternal,
and þu almihtiga.	And thou almighty,
ealra geſceapra.	Of all created beings,
ſceppend and ſeccend.	60 Maker and ruler,
apa þinum earpmum.	Spare thy wretched,

eorþan tudne.	Earth-born progeny,
monna cýnne.	Mankind,
þurh þinra mehta ꝛped.	Through the effect of thy power!
Ðri þu ece God.	65 Why, eternal God,
æfre wolde.	Ever wouldst thou,
þæt io þýrð on Ʒepill.	That fortune at pleasure,
pendan Ʒceolde.	Should incline
ýrlum monnum.	To evil men,
ealles Ʒpa Ʒrýðe.	70 Altogether so much?
hio ful oft depeð.	She full oft injures
unƷýldeƷum.	<i>The</i> guiltless.
ðittað ýfele men.	Wicked men sit
Ʒionð eorð-Ʒicu.	In earthly kingdoms,
on heah-Ʒetlum.	75 On thrones;
halize þriccað.	<i>The</i> saints <i>they</i> tread
under heora fotum.	Under their feet.
Ʒipum uncuð.	To men <i>it is</i> unknown,
hpi io þýrð Ʒpa po.	Why fortune so crookedly
pendan Ʒceolde.	80 Should move.
ðpa Ʒint Ʒehýðde.	Thus are concealed,
hep on worulde.	Here in <i>the</i> world,
Ʒeond burƷa Ʒela.	In many cities,
beorhte cƷæftaƷ.	Bright virtues.
UnrihtƷipe.	85 Unrighteous <i>men</i> ,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
habbað on hoƷpe.	Hold in derision,
þa þe him Ʒindon.	Those that to them are
rihter Ʒýrnan.	Superior in justice,
ƷiceƷ þýrðƷan.	90 More worthy of command.

Bīð þ̅ leare lot.	The false craftiness is
lange hpile.	Long while
beppugen mid ppencum.	Concealed by frauds.
Nu on populde hep.	Now here in the world,
monnum ne ðeriað.	95 On men inflict no injury,
mane aþar.	Wicked oaths.
Ʒif þu nu paðend ne pilt.	If thou now, O Ruler, wilt not
piþde ſteopan.	Fortune control,
ac on ſelf-pille.	But with self-will
ſigan læteſt.	100 Permittest <i>her</i> to rush ;
þonne ic pat þæt te pile.	Then I know that worldly
populð-men tpeogan.	Men will doubt,
geond folðan-ſceat.	Through the earth,
buton ſea ane.	Except a few alone.
Ʒala min Dnyhten.	105 O my Lord,
þu þe ealle oſeppriht.	Thou that over-seest
populde geſceapta.	All worldly creatures,
plit nu on moncyn.	Look now on mankind,
mildum eazum.	With placid eyes ;
nu hi on monezum hep.	110 Now they here in many
populde yþum.	Worldly waves,
pyннаð and ſpincað.	Strive and labour,
earme eorð-þapan.	Miserable inhabitants of earth,
apa him nu þa.	Spare them now therefore !

METRE V.<sup>m</sup>

Ɗu meahc be þæpe ƣunnan.	Thou mayest by the sun,
ƣpeotole ƣeþencean.	Clearly perceive,
and be æƣhpelcum.	And by every
oðrum ƣteorpan.	Other star,
þara þe ærter burƣum.	5 Of those which through cities
beorhtorƣ ƣcineð.	Brightest shine ;
Ƣiƣ him pan ƣore.	If before them a dark
polcen hangað.	Cloud hang,
ne mæƣen hi ƣpa leohtne.	They cannot so light
leoman anƣendan.	10 A ray send forth,
ær ƣe þicca mƣƣ.	Until the thick mist
þinna peorðe.	Becomes thinner.
Ƣpa oft ƣmýlce ƣæ.	So oft the smooth sea
ƣuþerne ƣind.	Green, transparent as glass,
ƣræƣe ƣlar-hluðne.	15 The southern wind
ƣrimme ƣeðneƣeð.	Fierce disturbs :
þonne hie ƣemengað.	When they are mingled,
mícla ƣƣta.	Great storms
onhpæað hƣon-meƣe. <sup>a</sup>	Stir up the sea ;
hƣioh bið þonne.	Then rough becomes

<sup>m</sup> Boet. Lib. i. Met. vii. Nubibus atris, &c.<sup>a</sup> Literally, whale pond.

ƿeo þe ær Ʒlaðu.  
 on-ƿiene ƿær.  
 Ðra oft æƿƿringe.  
 utapealleð.  
 of clife harum.  
 cōl and hlutor.  
 and Ʒeneclice.  
 ƿihte ƿloƿeð.  
 iƿneð ƿið hiƿ earðeƿ.  
 oð him on innan ƿeð.  
 munteƿ mæƷen-ƿtan.  
 and him on miððan ƷeliƷeð.  
 atƿendlob of þæm toƿne.  
 he on tu ƿiðþan.  
 toƿceaden ƿýƿeð.  
 ƿcīƿ bið Ʒeðƿeƿeð.  
 buƿna Ʒeblonden.  
 bƿoc bið onƿendeð.  
 of hiƿ ƿiht ƿýne.  
 ƿýþum toƿflopen.  
 ƿƿa nu þa þioƿtƿo.  
 þīnne heoƿtan ƿillað.  
 minne leohtan.  
 lape ƿiðƿtonðan.  
 and þīn mod-Ʒeþonc.  
 miclum Ʒeðƿeƿan.  
 Ac Ʒiƿ þu nu ƿīlnaƿt.  
 þæt þu ƿel mæƷe.  
 þæt ƿoðe leoht.

That which before  
 Was pleasaut to the sight.  
 So often a fountain  
 Springs out  
 25 Of a hoar cliff,  
 Cool and clear,  
 And diffusedly  
 Flows straight along,  
 Runs to its own place ;  
 30 Until into it falls  
 A huge stone *from the* mountain,  
 And in *the* middle of it lies,  
 Rolled from the high rock.  
 It into two thence  
 35 Is divided,  
*The* clear stream polluted,  
 Becomes troubled ;  
*The* brook is turned aside,  
 From its right course,  
 40 Flowing in rills.  
 So now the darkness  
 Of thine heart wishes  
 My enlightened doctrine  
 To withstand :  
 45 And thy mind's thoughts  
 Greatly to trouble.  
 But if thou now desirest,  
 Which thou well mayest,  
 The true light,

ƿpeotole oncnapan.	50 Clearly to understand,
leohte geleapan.	<i>The</i> pure faith;
þu ƿonlætan ƿcealt.	Thou shalt renounce
idle oƿer-ƿælþa.	Vain superfluities,
unnýtne zeƿean.	Unprofitable glory;
þu ƿcealt eac ýfelne ege.	55 Thou shalt also evil fear
an-ƿonlætan.	Dismiss,
ƿonulð-eaƿƿoþa.	Worldly troubles;
ne moƿt þu ƿeƿan ƿon þæm.	Nor must thou be through them
ealles to oƿmoð.	Altogether dejected.
ne þu þe æƿƿe ne læt.	60 Nor do thou ever let
plenca zeƿæcan.	Prosperity excite thee,
þe læƿ þu ƿeoƿðe ƿon him.	Lest thou through it shouldst be
mið oƿer-mettum.	With arrogance
eƿt zeƿcendeð.	Again corrupted,
and to upahaƿen.	65 And too much lifted up
ƿon oƿƿonƿum.	With prosperous,
ƿonulð-zeƿælþum.	Worldly goods.
Ne eƿt to ƿaclice.	Nor again too weakly
zeoƿtƿeoƿe.	Despair
æniƿeƿ goðeƿ.	70 Of any good:
þonne þe ƿon ƿonulðe.	When in <i>the</i> world
ƿiþeƿeapnða mæƿt.*	Adverse things
þinga þƿeage.	Thee most afflict;
and þu þe ƿelfum.	And thou thyself
ƿƿiþoƿt onƿitte.	75 Chiefly weighest down.
ƿonþæm ƿimle bið.	For always is

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\* MS. mæƿð.



ƿe mod-ƿeƿa.	The mind
miclum gebunden mid.	Greatly bound with
ƿeðneƿneƿe.	Trouble :
ƿiƿ hine ðnecccean mot.	80 If either of these evils
þiƿra ýrla hpæþeƿ.	Can torment it,
innan ƿƿencan.	Or afflict within.
ƿoþþæm þa tpezen tpezan.	Because the two vexations
teoð to ƿomne.	Draw together
ƿið þæt mod ƿoƿan.	85 Before the mind
miƿteƿ ðpoleman.	A-chaos of darkness ;
þæt hit ƿeo ece ne mot.	That on it the eternal sun cannot
hinan ƿeond ƿcīnan. [miƿtum	Hence shine
ƿunne ƿoƿ þæm ƿpeaptum	For the swart mists,
æƿ þæm hi ƿeƿƿiðþað ƿeoþþen.	Until they are subdued.

## METRE VI.\*

Ða ƿe ƿiƿðom eft.	THEN Wisdom again
ƿoþð-hoþð onleac.	His treasury of words unlocked,
ƿanƿ ƿoð-cƿiðar.	Sung <i>various</i> maxims,
and þuƿ ƿelfa cƿæð.	And thus expressed himself.
Ðonne ƿio ƿunne.	5 When the sun
ƿƿeotoloƿt ƿcīneð.	Clearest shines,
hadƿoƿt oƿ heƿone.	Serenest in the heaven ;
hpæðe bioð aþiƿtƿoð.	Quickly are obscured

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\* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iii. Cum polo Phœbus roseis quadrigis, &c.

ealle ofiſ eorþan.	Over the earth
oðre ſceorpan.	10 All other stars :
forþæm hioſa biþtu ne bið.	Because their brightness is not
auht [biþtneſſe.] <sup>9</sup>	[Brightness] at all,
to geſettane.	Compared with
wið þæne ſunnan leoht.	The sun's light.
Ðonne ſmolte blæpð.	15 When mild blows
ſuþan and weſtan winð.	<i>The</i> south and western wind,
under polcnum.	Under <i>the</i> clouds ;
þonne weaxeð hwaðe.	Then quickly grow
feldeſ bloſtman.	<i>The</i> flowers of <i>the</i> field,
ſægen þæt hi moton.	20 Joyful that they may.
Ac ſe ſceapca ſtopm.	But the stark storm,
þonne he ſtrong cymð.	When it strong comes,
norþan and eaſtan.	<i>From</i> north and east,
he genimeð hwaðe.	It quickly takes away
þæne noſan plite.	25 <i>The</i> beauty of the rose.
And eac þa numan ſæ.	And also <i>the</i> northern storm
noſþenne yſt.	Constrained by necessity,
neðe gebædeð.	That it <i>is</i> strongly agitated,
þæt hio ſtranze geond ſtýneð.	Lashes the spacious sea
on ſtaþu beateð.	30 Against <i>the</i> shore.
Eala ꝥ on eorþan.	Alas ! that on earth,
auht færlliceſ.	Aught of permanent
peoſceſ on populde.	Work in <i>the</i> world,
ne punað æfre.	Does not ever remain !

<sup>9</sup> Both the alliteration and sense shew that a word has been omitted in the MS. and I have supplied the deficiency by inserting *biþtneſſe*.

## METRE VII.\*

Ða ongon ƿe ƿiƿdom.	THEN began Wisdom
hiƿ ƿepunan ƿylƿan.	His wont to follow;
ƿlio-ƿorðum ƿol.	He sung in metre,
ƿýð æt <sup>†</sup> ƿpelle.	A lay in <i>his</i> discourse;
ƿong ƿoð-cƿiða.	5 And uttered certain
ƿumne þa ƿeta.	Maxims again.
ƿræð he ne heƿde.	He said he never heard,
þæt on heanne <sup>†</sup> munt.	That on a high mountain,
monna æniƿ.	Any one of men
meahte aƿettan.	10 Could place
healle hƿof-ƿærte.	A roof-fast hall,
Ne þearf eac hæleþa nan.	Nor need moreover any man,
ƿenan þær ƿeopceƿ.	To think of this work,
þæt he ƿiƿdom mæƿe.	That he may wisdom
ƿið oƿermetta.	15 With sensuality
æfne ƿemengan.	Ever mingle.
Heƿdeþ þu æfne.	Heardest thou ever,
þæt te æniƿ mon.	That any man
on ƿonð beopƿar.	On <u>sand hills</u>
ƿettan meahte.	20 Could set

\* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iv.

Quisquis volet perennem, &amp;c.

† MS. æt.

† MS. heane.

færte healle.	A firm hall?
Ne mæg eac fīra nan.	Nor can moreover any man
ƿiſdom tīmbjan.	Establish wisdom,
þær þær ƿoruld-gitrunȝ.	Where worldly covetousness
beoȝ ofeſbjaðeð.	25 Overspreads <i>the</i> hill.
baſu ſonð ƿillað.	The bare sand desires
nen ƿorȝpelȝan.	To swallow up the rain.
ſpa ðeð ſicra nu.	So does now of the wealthy
ȝrundleaſ gitrunȝ.	The bottomless avarice
ȝilpeſ and æhta.	30 Of glory and possessions,
ȝeðſinceð to ðriȝȝum.	Drink to <i>the</i> dregs
ðneorendne pelan.	Perishable wealth :
and þeah þær þearfan ne bið.	And yet of this desire
þurȝt aceleð.	Is not <i>the</i> thirst allayed.
Ne mæg hæleþa ȝehpæm.	35 Nor may to any man,
huſ on munte.	A house on a mountain
lange ȝelærtan.	Long remain ;
ƿorþæm him lungre on.	For on it quickly
ſƿiſt ƿiנד ſƿapeð.	<i>The</i> swift wind sweeps.
Ne bið ſonð þon ma.	40 Nor is sand the better,
ƿið micelne nen.	Against much rain,
manna ænȝum.	To any one of men,
huſeſ hiſde.	Protector of <i>his</i> house ;
ac hit hpeoȝan ƿile.	But it will fall,
ſiȝan ſonð æfteſ nene.	45 The sand sink after rain.
ſpa bioð anpa ȝehpær.	So are the minds
monna mod-ſeſan.	Of every one of men,
miclum apeȝede.	Greatly agitated,
of hiopa ſteðe ſtȝneðe.	From their place moved,

þonne he ƿƿonƿ ɔƿeceð.	50 When them the strong wind
ƿinð unðer ƿolcnum.	Of worldly troubles,
ƿoruld-eaƿroða.	Under the clouds afflicts :
oððe hi <sup>u</sup> eft ƿe ƿeða.	Or them again the violent
ƿen onhƿeƿeð.	Rain excites
ƿumer ƿmbhogan.	55 Of some anxiety,
unƿemet ƿemen.	Immoderate care.
Ac ƿe þe þa ecan.	But he who will possess
aƿan ƿille.	<i>The</i> eternal,
ƿoþan ƿeræþa.	True felicities,
he ƿceal ƿƿiðe ƿlion.	60 He must quickly fly
þiƿƿe ƿorulde ƿlite.	This world's splendour ;
ƿƿnce him ƿiðþan.	<i>And</i> then let him make
hiƿ modeƿ huƿ.	His mind's house,
þær he mæƿe ƿinðan.	Where he may find
eaðmetta ƿtan.	65 <i>The</i> rock of humility,
unƿemetƿæƿtne. <sup>u</sup>	<i>The</i> immense
ƿrunð-ƿeal ƿearone.	Foundation prepared :
ƿe to-ƿliðan ne þearƿ.	It need not slip,
þeah hiƿ ƿecƿe ƿinð.	Though it the wind agitate,
ƿoruld-eaƿroða.	70 Of worldly troubles,
oððe ƿmbhogena.	Or of anxieties,
orƿete ƿen.	<i>The</i> immoderate rain.
ƿorþæm on þære ðene.	For in the valley
ƿnihten ƿelƿa.	Of humility,
þara eaðmetta.	75 <i>The</i> Lord himself

<sup>u</sup> MS. hiƿ.<sup>u</sup> MS. uniz metƿæƿtne.

eardfæst punigað.  
 þær se ƿiðdom á.  
 punað on gemýndum.  
 forþon orþorð liſ.  
 ealnið læðað.  
 ƿoruld-men ƿiſe.  
 buton pendinge.  
 þonne he eall forþið.  
 eorðlicu goð.  
 and eac þara ýſela.  
 orþorð punað.  
 hopað to þam ecum.  
 þe þær æfter cumað.  
 Ðine þonne æghþonan.  
 ælmihtig Good.  
 riſgallice.  
 riſle gehealdeð.  
 anpunigendne.  
 hiſ azenum.  
 moder geſelþum.  
 þurh metoder gife.  
 þeah hine se ƿind.  
 ƿoruld-eaſroþa.  
 riðe ſpence.  
 and hine riſgale.  
 gemen gæle.  
 þonne him gnumme on.  
 ƿoruld-ſælþa ƿind.

Permanently dwells.  
 There Wisdom ever  
 Remains in minds.  
 Therefore a secure life  
 80 Always lead  
 Wise men in the world,  
 Without change,  
 When they despise  
 All earthly goods ;  
 85 And also of evils  
 Remain careless ;  
 They hope for the eternal *things*  
 Which thereafter shall come.  
 Him, then, everywhere,  
 90 Almighty God  
 Perpetually,  
 Ever keeps,  
 Dwelling alone,  
 In *the* proper happiness  
 95 Of his mind,  
 By *the* Creator's gift :  
 Though him the wind  
 Of worldly troubles  
 Greatly disturbs,  
 100 And him perpetual  
 Cares impede ;  
 When on him fiercely,  
 The dark wind blows

ƿƿaðe blaƿeð.  
 þeah þe hine ealneȝ.  
 ȝe ýmbhoȝa þýȝȝa.  
 ƿoƿulð-ȝælþa.  
 ƿƿaðe ðƿecce.

Of worldly goods ;  
 105 *And* though him always,  
 The anxious care  
 Of these worldly goods  
 Severely afflicts.

*VII*

### METRE V.\*

ðona ȝƿa ȝe ȝýðom.  
 þaȝ ƿoȝð hæȝðe.  
 ȝƿetole aƿeahte.  
 he þa ȝiðþan onȝan.  
 ȝinȝan ȝoð-cƿiðar.  
 and þuȝ ȝelfa cƿæð.  
 ðƿæt ȝio ȝoȝme elð.  
 ȝoðð-buendum.  
 ȝeond eorþan-ȝceat.  
 æȝhpam ðohte.  
 þa þa anȝa ȝehƿæm.  
 on eorð-ƿæȝtmum.  
 ȝenoh þuhte.  
 niȝ hit nu þa ȝƿelc.  
 næƿon þa ȝeond ƿeoȝulðe.

As soon as Wisdom  
 These words had  
 Plainly uttered,  
 He then afterwards began  
 5 To sing maxims,  
 And thus expressed himself.  
 How was the first age  
 To the inhabitants  
 Throughout the earth,  
 10 To each one happy !  
 When to every one  
 In *the* earth's fruits  
 Abundance appeared :  
 It is not so now.  
 15 Then through the world were not

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\* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. v. Felix nimium prior ætas, &c.

pelize hamar.  
 ne miȝlice.  
 mettar ne ȝrincȝ.  
 ne hi þara hrægla.  
 hupu ne ȝemdon.  
 þe nu ȝriht-ȝuman.  
 ȝioroȝt lætað.  
 ȝorþæm hioȝa nænig.  
 næȝ þa ȝieta.  
 ne hi ne ȝerapon.  
 ȝund-buende.  
 ne ȝmbutan hi.  
 aȝen ne heȝdon.  
 hræt hi ȝinenluȝta.  
 ȝpecene ȝæpon.  
 buton ȝpa hi meahton.  
 ȝemetlicȝoȝt.  
 þa ȝecȝnd began.  
 þe him Eȝiȝt ȝerȝeoȝ.  
 and hi æne on ȝæȝe.  
 æton ȝȝmle.  
 on æȝen-tið.  
 eoȝþan ȝæȝtmaȝ.  
 puðer and ȝȝȝta.  
 naller ȝin ȝȝuncon.  
 ȝȝin oȝ ȝteape.  
 næȝ þa ȝcealca nan.  
 þe mete oððe ȝȝinc.

Rich houses,  
 Nor various  
 Meats and drink.  
 Nor did they at all care about  
 20 The ornaments,  
 Which now the chiefs  
 Most dearly esteem;  
 For of them none  
 As yet existed.  
 25 Nor did sailors  
 Ever see them,  
 Nor about them  
 Anywhere hear.  
 Moreover they of luxuries  
 30 Were desirous,  
 Only as they might.  
 Most moderately  
 The nature obey,  
 Which for them Christ created.  
 35 And they once in *the* day  
 Always ate,  
 At even-tide,  
 Earth's fruits,  
 Of *the* tree and of herbs.  
 40 No wine they drank  
 Pure from *the* cup;  
 There was no servant  
 Who meats or drink



mængan cuðe.	Knew how to mingle,
pæter pið hunige.	45 —Water with honey.
ne heopa pæda þon ma.	Nor any more their garments
rioloe riopian.	To sew with silk :
ne hi riapo-cræftum.	Nor with skilful arts
godpeb ginedon.	Did they prepare <i>the</i> purple.
ne hi gimpeceð. <sup>7</sup>	50 Nor did they palaces
retton reapolice.	Artfully construct.
ac hi riule him.	But they ever,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
ute rlepon.	Slept out,
under beam-ŕceade.	55 Under the tree-shade.
ðruncon burpan pæter.	They drank water of the brook,
calde pellan.	Of the cold fountain.
nænig cepa ne reah.	No merchant saw
ofer eap-geblond.	Over the sea,
ellendne rearod.	60 A foreign shore ;
ne huru ymbe riip-hergar.	Nor about fleets at all
re-tilcar ne herdon.	Ploughing the seas heard <i>they</i> :
ne riurþum riŕa nan.	Nor moreover did any man
ymb zereohc riŕrecan.	About fights <i>hear</i> speak.
nær þeor eorðe bermiten	65 This earth was not polluted
apeŕ þa zeta.	Anywhere yet
beorner blodē.	With <i>the</i> blood of man.

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<sup>7</sup> Lye having translated *peceð* domus, and *riund-peceð* marina domus, sc. arca, I have rendered *gimpeceð* palaces. The sense of the passage precludes the rendering of Lye, as a noun is evidently required.

þe hi ne* bill-ruðe.	Then they no bloody steel,
ne fupþum punðne þeþ.	Nor even a wounded man,
peoruld-buende.	70 ( <i>The</i> inhabitants of earth)
ƷeƷapan undeþ Ʒunnan.	Beheld under <i>the</i> sun.
nænig Ʒiðþan þæƷ.	No one afterwards would have been
peorð on peorulde.	Honoured in the world,
ƷiƷ mon hiƷ Ʒillan onƷeat.	If they had discovered
ƷƷelne mið eldum.	75 His evil will of old : [all.
he þæƷ æƷhpæm lað.	He would have been loathsome to
Ʒala þæt <sup>a</sup> hiƷ Ʒurðe.	O that it might be !
oððe Ʒolde Ġod.	Or that God would,
þæt on eoþan nu.	That on earth now,
uƷƷa tiða.	80 In our times,
Ʒeond þaƷ Ʒiðan peoruld.	Through the wide world,
þæþen æƷhpæþ <sup>b</sup> ƷƷelce.	<i>They</i> were everywhere such,
undeþ Ʒunnan.	Under the sun !
Ac hiƷ iƷ Ʒæmþe nu.	But it is worse now,
þæt þeoƷ ƷiƷƷunc haƷað.	85 That this covetousness has
Ʒumena ƷehƷelceƷ.	Of every man,
moð ameþneð.	<i>The</i> mind corrupted :
þæt he maþan ne þeçð.	That he is reckless <i>of other things</i> :
ac hiƷ on Ʒitte.	But it in his mind
peallende biƷnð.	90 Raging burns,
eƷne Ʒio ƷiƷƷung.	Even the covetousness
þe nænne Ʒrunð haƷað.	Which has no bottom ;

\* MS. hine.

\* MS. þæþ.

\* MS. æƷhpæþ.

ƿƿearƿe ƿƿæƿeð.	<i>It</i> black lies smouldering,
ƿumer on lice.	Somewhat like
eƿne þam munte.	95 Even to that mountain,
þe nu monna beapn.	Which now <i>the</i> children of men
Eƿne hatað.	Call Etna ;
ƿe on iƿlonde,	Which in <i>the</i> island
Sicilia.	<i>Of</i> Sicily
ƿƿeƿle biƿnneð.	100 With sulphur burns,
þæt mon helle ƿýn.	That men hell fire
hateð ƿiðe	Widely call,
ƿorþæm hit ƿimle bið.	Because it ever is,
ƿin-biƿnnende.	Perpetually burning ;
and ýmbutan hit.	105 And about it
oðra ƿtopa.	Other places
blate ƿorþærnð.	Everywhere burns up,
biƿeƿan leze.	With a bitter flame.
Eala hpæt ƿe ƿorþma.	Alas ! that the first
ƿeoh-ƿitƿeƿe.	110 Miser
ƿæƿe on ƿorþulde.	Should have been in the world,
ƿe þaƿ ƿonƿ-ƿteðar.	Who the fields
ƿroƿ æƿteƿ ƿolde.	Delved after gold,
and æƿteƿ ƿim-cýnnum.	And after precious stones ;
hpæt he ƿƿecnu ƿeƿtƿeon.	115 He indeed dangerous wealth
ƿunde mænegum.	Found for many,
beƿnigen on ƿeopulde.	Concealed in the world,
ƿæteƿe oððe eoþan.	In water or in earth !

METRE IX.<sup>c</sup>

Ðpæt pe ealle pton.	✕ We all indeed know
hpelce ærleſte.	What iniquities,
ge neah ge feop.	Both near and far,
Neron porhte.	Nero wrought,
Rompana cýning.	5 —King of <i>the</i> Romans,
þa hſ rice pær.	When his kingdom was
hehſt under heoſonum.	Highest under heaven,
to hſſe monegum,	For ruin to many.
Þælhpoeper geped.	The madness of the tyrant
pær ful pſde cuð.	10 Was full widely known,—
unpſht-hæmed.	Adultery,—
arleara þela.	Many impieties,—
man and moþþor.	Wickedness and murder,—
mſþæda poſn.	A multitude of misdeeds,—
unpſhtpſer.	15 Of an iniquitous <i>man</i>
inþið-þoncar.	The machinations!
Ðe het him to gamene.	He ordered for his sport,
geapa þorþæpnan.	Formerly to burn,
Romana buſig.	<i>The</i> city of <i>the</i> Romans,
pſo hſ pſcer pær.	20 Which was of his whole empire

<sup>c</sup> Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vi. Novimus quantas dederit ruinas, &c.

- ealler eþel-ŕtol.  
 He ŕon unŕnýttrum.  
 polde ŕandian.  
 ȝif þ̅ ŕȝn meahthe.  
 lixan ŕpa leohte.  
 and ŕpa longe eac.  
 ȝeadra ŕettan.  
 ŕpæ he Romane.  
 ŕecȝan ȝeherde.  
 þæt on ŕume tide.  
 Tȝroia burȝ.  
 oŕŕtogen hæŕde.  
 leȝa leohtort.  
 lenȝeŕt burne.  
 hama under heŕonum.  
 Næŕ þæt heŕlic dæð.  
 þæt hine ŕpelceŕ ȝameneŕ.  
 ȝilpan lȝŕte.  
 þa he ne eapnade.  
 elleŕ puhte.  
 buton þæt he polde.  
 oŕŕen peŕ-þiode.  
 hiŕ aneŕ huŕu.  
 anpað cȝþan.  
 Eac hiŕ ȝeŕælde.  
 æt ŕumum cieŕpe.  
 þæt ŕe ilca het.  
 ealle acpellan.  
 þa ȝicoŕtan.
- The metropolis.*  
 He through foolishness,  
 Would find out,  
 Whether that fire might  
 25 Shine as bright,  
 And as long also,  
*And* redder subside,  
 Since he *the* Romans  
 Heard say,  
 30 That on a certain time,  
*The* lightest flame,  
*The* longest burning  
 Of dwellings under heaven,  
 Had overwhelmed  
 35 *The* city of Troy. ✕  
 That was not a glorious deed,  
 That he of such like sport  
 Should wish to boast,  
 When he earned not  
 40 Anything else;  
 Except that he would  
 Over mankind,  
 His own power,  
 Somewhat display.  
 45 It also happened,  
 At a certain time,  
 That the same [Nero] ordered  
 To slay all  
 The richest senators

Romana witan.  
 and þa æþelestan.  
 eorl gebýrdum.  
 þe he on þæm folce.  
 gefrugen hæfde.  
 and on uppan.  
 agene broþor.  
 and his modor mid.  
 meca ecgum.  
 billum of-beatan.  
 He his brýðe ofrlog.  
 self mid fpeorðe.  
 and he symle þær.  
 micle þe bliþra.  
 on breort-coran.  
 þonne he swýlcer morðnes. 65  
 mægt gefremede.  
 nalles forðode.  
 hwæþer riðþan á.  
 mihtig Drihten.  
 ametan wolde.  
 pence be gefyrhtum.  
 poh-fremendum.  
 ac he on ferðe fægn.  
 facnes and fearupa.  
 pælhriop punode.  
 wiold emne swa þeah.  
 ealles þýrres mæran.  
 middan-geardes.

50 Of *the* Romans,  
 And the noblest  
 Earls by birth,  
 Whom he among that people  
 Had discovered :  
 55 And upon  
*His* own brother,  
 And his mother,  
 With *the* edges of swords,  
 With bills to strike.  
 60 He slew his bride  
 Himself with a sword ;  
 And he was always  
 Much the blither  
 In his breast,  
 65 When he of such murder  
 Most perpetrated.  
 He nothing cared,  
 Whether afterwards, ever,  
*The* mighty Lord  
 70 Would mete out  
 Punishment by *their* deeds,  
 To the doers of wickedness.  
 But he in *his* mind rejoicing  
 In stratagems and frauds,  
 75 A tyrant remained.  
 Yet he even so governed  
 All this extensive  
 Middle earth,

ƿpa ƿpa lȳft and laƷu.  
land ȳmbclȳppað.

Ʒan-ƿecƷ embe-ȷȳft.  
Ʒumena ƿice.

ƿecƷe ƿtlu.

ƿuð-eaƷt and ƿeƷt.

oð þa noƿðmeƷtan.

næƿƿan on eoƿþan.

eall þæt Neƿone.

neðe oððe luƷtum.

heaþo-ƿinca Ʒehƿilc.

heƿan ƿceolde.

De hæƿde him to Ʒamene.

þonne he on ȷȳlp aƿtaƷ.

hu he eoƿð-cȳningaƷ.

ȳpmde and cƿelmdde.

ƿenƷt þu þ ƿe anƿalð.

eaððe ne meahte.

GoðeƷ ælmihtigeƷ.

þone ȷelp-ƿcaþan.

ƿice beƿæðan.

and beƿeaƿian.

hiƷ anƿalðeƷ.

þuþh þa ecan meaht.

oððe him hiƷ ȳfeleƷ.

elleƷ ȷeƷtiþan.

Eala ȷiƿ he ƿolde.

þæt he ƿel meahte.

þæt unƿiht him.

As far as air and water

80 The land encircle,

And ocean encompasses

The kingdoms of men—

The seats of warriors ;

South-east and west,

85 To the most northern

Promontory of *the* earth ;

All that to Nero,

By force or willingly,—

(Every one of the nobles,)

90 Was obedient.

He had for sport to him,

When he increased in arrogance,

How he *the* kings of *the* earth

Should oppress and slay.

95 Thinkest thou that the power

Of Almighty God

Could not easily

Blast that arrogance,

*The* empire deliver,

100 And bereave *him*

Of his power,

By the eternal might ;

Or else him of his evil

Correct ?

105 O, that he would,

As he well might,

That injustice to him,

eaðe forþioðan.	Easily forbid !
Ɔapla Ɔ Ɔe hlaforð.	Alas ! that this lord
heƆiz Ɔioc Ɔlepte.	110 A heavy yoke should cast,
ƆƆape on Ɔa ƆƆýnan.	And burdensome on the necks
ƆinƆa ƆeƆena.	Of his servants,
ealƆa ƆaƆa hæleƆa.	Of all the men,
Ɔe on hiƆ Ɔiðum.	Who in his times
Ɔeond ƆaƆ lænan ƆoƆoð.	115 Throughout this transitory world
liƆan Ɔceolðon.	Should live.
De on unƆƆýlðƆum.	He with the guiltless
eoƆla bloðe.	Blood of nobles
hiƆ ƆƆeoƆð Ɔeleðe.	His sword soiled
ƆƆiðe Ɔelome.	120 Very often.
DeƆ ƆaƆ ƆƆiðe ƆƆeoƆol.	Then was very clear,
ƆaƆ Ɔe Ɔædon oƆƆ.	What we oft have said,
ƆaƆ Ɔe anƆaλð ne ðeð.	That power does not
aƆiƆƆ ƆoðeƆ.	Aught of good,
ƆiƆ Ɔe Ɔel nele.	125 If he does not will well
Ɔe hiƆ ƆeƆealð haƆað.	Who has the exercise of it.

METRE X.<sup>d</sup>

EiƆ nu hæleƆa hƆone.	If now any one of men
hliƆan liƆƆe.	Lusts for fame ;
unniƆƆne Ɔelp.	Unprofitable glory

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<sup>d</sup> Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vii. Quicumque solam mente præcipiti petit, &c.



aȝan pille.  
 þonne ic hine polde.  
 porðum biððan.  
 þæt he hine æghponon.  
 utan ýmbe þohte.  
 rpeotole ýmb rape.  
 ruð-eart and per  
 hu piðgil rint.  
 polcnum ýmbutan.  
 heoroner hpealfe.  
 hiȝe-ȝnotnum.  
 mæȝ eaðe þincan.  
 þæt þeor eorðe rie.  
 eall for þæt oþer.  
 unȝemet\* lýtel.  
 þeah hio unpiȝum.  
 piðgel þince.  
 on rtede rtronglic.  
 rteorleapum men.  
 þeah mæȝ þone piȝan.  
 on ȝepit-locan.  
 þære ȝitȝunge.  
 ȝelper rcamian.  
 þonne hine þær hliȝan.  
 heapdoȝt lýrteð.  
 and he þeah ne mæȝ.  
 þone tobneðan.

Will possess ;  
 5 Then him I would  
 With words beseech,  
 That he everywhere  
 Round about him would consider,  
 Would openly look round,  
 10 South-east and west,  
 How wide are  
 Above the clouds,  
 The regions of heaven.  
 To *the* wise mind  
 15 It may easily appear  
 That this earth is  
 All in comparison with that other,  
 Immeasurably little,  
 Though it to *the* unwise  
 20 Extensive seems,  
 —In *its* place stable,  
 To unlearned men.  
 Yet may the wise  
 In *his* mind,  
 25 Be ashamed of  
 The greediness of glory,  
 When he this fame  
 Strongest desires.  
 And yet he may not  
 30 Spread it,

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\* MS. unȝmet.

oƿen þaƿ neapopan.	In any wise,
nænige þinga.	Over these narrow
eopþan-ƿceataƿ.	Regions of <i>the</i> earth.
īƿ þæt unnet Ʒelp.	Vain is that glory!
Eala oƿeƿmodan.	35 O, ye proud,
hƿī eop alýrte.	Why do ye desire,
mīð eopnum ƿƿīpan.	With your necks,
Ʒelfƿa ƿillum.	That heavy yoke
þæt ƿƿæpe Ʒioc.	Of your own wills,
Ʒýmle undeƿlutan.	40 Ever to support?
Ðƿý Ʒe ýmb þæt unnet.	Why do ye always labour
ealníƷ ƿƿincen.	About that useless <i>thing</i> ,
þæt Ʒe þone hliƿan.	That ye fame
habban tīliað.	Strive to have,
oƿeƿ þīoða ma.	45 Over more nations
þonne eop þeaƿƿ ƿie.	Than is needful for you?
þeah eop nu Ʒeƿæle.	Though to you it now happen,
þæt eop ƿuð oððe noƿð.	That you <i>from</i> south to north,
þa ýtmeƿtan.	The furthest
eopð-buende.	50 Inhabitants
on moníƷ þīoðýc.	In many nations
mīclum heƿien.	Greatly obey.
Ðeah hƿa æþele ƿie.	Though any should be noble,
eopī Ʒebýrðum.	An earl by birth,
ƿelum Ʒeƿeoƿðað.	55 Should abound in wealth,
and on plencum þīo.	And in splendour flourish,
ðuƷuþum ðiope.	Dear to <i>the</i> great;
deað þæƿ ne ƿcƿīƿeð.	Death cares not for him,
þonne him ƿum ƿoƿlæt.	When him <i>the</i> august Ruler

ƿoðoƿa ƿaþeñð.	60 Of <i>the</i> skies gives leave.
ac he þone ƿeleƿan.	But he the rich
ƿæðlum ƿelice.	Like unto the poor,
eƿn mæƿne ƿeðeð.	Makes equally great
ælceƿ þingeƿ.	In every thing.
Ðƿæƿ ƿint nu þæƿ ƿiƿan.	65 Where are now the bones
ƿelander ban.	Of the wise Weland,
þæƿ ƿold-ƿimþeƿ.	The goldsmith,
þe ƿæƿ ƿeo mæƿoƿt.	Who was formerly most famous?
ƿoþþý ic ƿæð þæƿ ƿiƿan.	On this account I said,
ƿelander ban.	70 <i>The</i> bones of the wise Weland :
ƿoþþý ængum ne mæƿ.	Because to any one
eopð-buendƿa.	Of earth's inhabitants may not
ƿe ƿƿæƿt loƿian.	The skill perish,
þe him Cƿiƿt onlænð.	Which to him Christ lends.
Ne mæƿ mon æƿne þý eð.	75 Nor may any ever the sooner
æñne ƿƿæccan.	Any wretch,
hiƿ ƿƿæƿteƿ beniman,	Of his skill deprive,
þe mon onceƿƿan mæƿ.	Than any one can turn
ƿunnan onƿƿiƿan.	The sun backwards,
and þiƿne ƿƿiƿtan ƿoðop.	80 And this swift sky,
op hiƿ ƿiht-ƿýne.	From its right course,
ƿinca æniƿ.	—Any one of men !
Ðƿa ƿat nu þæƿ ƿiƿan.	Who knows now <i>the</i> bones
ƿelander ban.	Of the wise Weland ;
on hƿelcum in hlæƿa.	85 Under what heap of earth
hƿuƿan þeccen.	<i>They are</i> concealed ?
Ðƿæƿ iƿ nu ƿe ƿica.	Where is now the powerful
Romana ƿita.	Senator of the Romans,

and þe aþoda.  
 þe þe ýmb řpþecað.  
 hioþa heþetoza.  
 ře zehaten pær.  
 mid þæm burhþarum.  
 Brutus nemned.  
 Ðpær iř eac ře řiřa.  
 and ře peorð-georþna.  
 and ře řæřt-þæda.  
 řolcer hýrþe.  
 ře pær uðřita.  
 ælcer řinger.  
 cene and cþæřtiz.  
 þæm pær Caton nama.  
 Ði pæron zefýrn.  
 řorð-geþitene.  
 nat nænię mon.  
 hpær hi nu řindon.  
 Ðpæt iř hioþa heþe.  
 buton ře hliřa an.  
 ře iř eac to lýtel.  
 řpelcþa lapiopa.  
 řorþæm þa maęo-řincas.  
 mařan pýrþe pæron.  
 on populþe.  
 Ac hit iř pýrþe nu.  
 þæt zeonþ þas eorþan.  
 æęhpær řindon.  
 hioþa zelican.

And the asserter of liberty  
 90 That we tell of;  
 Their consul  
 He was called,  
 By the citizens,  
 Named Brutus?  
 95 Where is also the wise,  
 And the studious of glory,  
 And the inflexible  
 Guardian of *the* people:  
 Who was a philosopher  
 100 In every respect,  
 Brave and virtuous,  
 To whom Cato was *the* name?  
 They have long ago  
 Departed.  
 105 No man knows  
 Where they now are.  
 What is their fame,  
 But the report alone  
 Of such like teachers;  
 110 Which is also too little,  
 Because the men  
 Of more were worthy.  
 In the world?  
 But it is worse now,  
 115 That through this earth,  
 Everywhere are  
*The* like to them;

hpon ýmb řpnæce.	Very little mention of <i>them</i> :
řume openlice.	Some clearly
ealle řorřitene.	120 <i>Are</i> all forgotten.
řæt hı ře hlıřa.	So that them
hıř-cuðe ne mæř.	Familiar fame cannot
řone-mæře řeřař.	(Illustrious men)
řorð řebřengan.	Bring to light.
Đeah ře nu penen.	125 Though ye now expect,
and řılıřen.	And desire,
řæt ře lange tid.	That ye a long time
lıbban moten.	May live :
hřæt ior æřne řý bet.	What to you ever the better
bio oððe řınce. <sup>f</sup>	130 Is it or appears ;
řorřæm ře nane řorlet.	Since after a number of days
řeah hıt lang řınce.	Death lets none escape,
deað æřter řogor-řıme.	Though it seem long,
řonne he hæřð Đřıhtneřleafe.	When he has the Lord's leave ?
Đřæt řonne hæbbe.	135 What then can have
hæleřa ænıř.	Any one of men
řuma æt řæm řılpe.	From that glory,
řıř hıne řeřřıpan mot.	If him may seize
ře eca deað.	Eternal death,
æřter řıřřum řorulde.	140 After this life ?

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<sup>f</sup> řınce in this, as in many other places, is used impersonally.

METRE XI.<sup>s</sup>

An ꝛceppend 1ꝛ.  
 butan ælcum tꝛeon.  
 ꝛe 1ꝛ eac pealbend.  
 populd-ꝛeꝛceapta.  
 heoꝛoneꝛ and eoꝛþan.  
 and heah ꝛæ.  
 and ealpa þaꝛa.  
 þe þæꝛ in puniað.  
 ungeꝛepenlicpa.  
 and eac ꝛpa ꝛame.  
 þaꝛa þe ꝛe eazum.  
 on lociað.  
 ealpa ꝛeꝛceapta.  
 ꝛe 1ꝛ ælmihtig.  
 þæm oleccað.  
 ealle ꝛeꝛceapte.  
 þe þæꝛ ambehteꝛ.  
 apuht cunnon.  
 ꝛe eac ꝛpa ꝛame.  
 þa þæꝛ auht nýton.

*There* is one Creator,  
 Without any doubt, (  
 Who is also *the* ruler  
 Of worldly creatures,  
 5 Of heaven and earth,  
 And *the* high sea :  
 And of all those *creatures*  
 Which therein dwell  
 Invisible ;  
 10 And also the same,  
 Of those that with our eyes  
 We behold ;  
 —*Even* all creatures.  
 He is almighty ;  
 13 Him obey  
 All creatures,  
 That of this service  
 Aught know.  
 And in like manner *those*  
 20 Which thereof nothing know,

þæt hi þær þeodnes.	That they of this Lord
þeopaſ ƿindon.	Are servants.
ſe uſ ƿeſette.	He to us has set
ƿido and þeopaſ.	Duties and customs,
eallum ƿeſceapſum.	25 To all creatures
unapendendne.	Unchangeable,
ƿingallice.	For ever ;
ƿibbe ƿecynde.	—A natural relationship ;
þa þa he ƿolde.	When he would,
þæt ꝥ he ƿolde.	30 That which he would,
ƿpa lange ƿpa he ƿolde.	As long as he would,
þæt hit ƿeſan ſceolde.	That it should be,
ƿpa hit eac to ƿopulde ſceal.	As it also for ever shall
ƿunian <sup>h</sup> ƿorð.	Henceforth remain.
ƿorþæm æſne ne maƿon.	35 For never may
þa unſcillan.	The restless
ƿopulð-ƿeſceapſa.	Worldly creatures,
ƿeopþan ƿeſtilde.	Become still ;
of þæm ƿýne onpend	Or from that course turn,
þe him ƿodeſa ƿeaſð.	40 Which to them the Guardian of the
endebyrðeſ.	Orderly, [skies
eallum ƿeſette.	To all has appointed.
hæſð ſe alpealða.	The Omnipotent has
ealle ƿeſceapſa.	All creatures
ƿebæt mid hſ byrðle.	45 Restrained with his bridle :
hæſð butu ƿedon.	He has done both ;
ealle ƿeſanode.	All admonished,

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<sup>h</sup> MS. ƿuniað. Lye corrected the reading, and has ƿunian.

and eac zetogen.	And moreover restrained ;
þæt hi ne moten.	That they may not
ofer metoder eȝt.	50 Beyond their Maker's pleasure
æfne ȝeȝtillan.	Ever be still :
ne eȝt eallunga.	Nor again altogether
ȝriþor ȝtȝian.	Move more,
þonne hi ȝȝona-pearð.	Than the triumphant Guardian
hiȝ ȝepearð-leþer.	55 The reins of his power
pille onlæten.	Will relax.
he harað þam <sup>1</sup> bȝidle.	He has with the bridle
butu beȝanȝen.	Encompassed both
heofon and eorþan.	Heaven and earth,
and eall holma-beȝonȝ. <sup>k</sup>	60 And all <i>the</i> seas.
ȝpa hæfð ȝeheaþæȝoð.	So <i>the</i> Guardian of heaven,
heȝon-ȝiceȝ pearð.	Has restrained
mið hiȝ anpearðe.	By his power,
ealle ȝeȝceafȝa.	All creatures ;
þæt hiȝona æȝhpilc.	65 That each one of them
pið oþer pinð.	With other strives ;
and þeah pinneȝde.	And though striving,
ȝȝeþiað ȝæȝte.	Each the other
æȝhpilc oþer.	Firmly supports,
utan ȝymbclȝppeð.	70 <i>And</i> outwardly embraces,
þȝ læȝ hi toȝȝiȝen.	Lest they should err.

<sup>1</sup> MS. þe.

<sup>k</sup> I have never before met with this expression, and Lye does not notice it : but as holm is rendered by Lye aqua, mare, &c. and ȝonȝ iter, semita, &c. it may with propriety be rendered as here translated.



forþæm hi rymle rculon.	For they always shall
þone ilcan rýne.	The same course
eft gecýrran.	Again pursue,
þe æt rrýmðe.	75 Which at <i>the</i> beginning,
ræðen zetioðe.	<i>The</i> father ordained,
and rpa ednipe.	And so renewed,
eft zepiorþan.	Again to be ;
rpa hit nu ragað.	So it now varies,—
rnean eald zepeorc.	80 The old work of the Lord ;
þæt te rinnende.	That striving,
riþerpearð zerceart.	Contrary creatures,
ræfte ribbe.	Firm agreement
forð anhealðað.	Should ever keep.
rpa nu rýr and pæter.	85 As now fire and water,
folde and lagu-rtneam.	Earth and seas,
manigu oþru zerceart.	<i>And</i> many other creatures
eƿn rriðe him.	Equally great with them,
gionð þar ridan <sup>1</sup> porulde.	Through this wide world,
rinnað betpeox him.	90 Strive between themselves,
and rpa þeah mazon.	And yet thus may
hiopa þegnunga.	Their service,
and zereƿrcepe.	And fellowship,
ræfte zehealban.	Firmly keep.
Niſ hit no þ an.	95 It is not this alone,
þæt rpa eaðe mæg.	That so easily may
riþerpearð zerceart.	Contrary creatures
peran ætƿæðene.	Be together,

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<sup>1</sup> MS. ridar.

rýmbel gerepan.	Always companions :
ac hit 1r fellicpe.	100 But it is more wonderful,
þæt hiora ænig ne mæg.	That of them none may
butan oþrum bion.	Without <i>the</i> others exist ;
ac rceal puhta gehwlc.	But each thing shall
riþerpearðes hræt-hwugu.	Of its contrary somewhat
habban under heofonum.	105 Have under the heavens,
þæt his hige.	Which its energy
durpe gemitgan.	Dares to moderate,
ær hit to micel peorðe.	Before it comes to much.
Ðærð se ælmihtiga.	The Almighty has
eallum gercraftum.	110 To all creatures
þæt gerswile gese.	That interchange appointed,
þe nu punian rceal.	Which shall now remain ;
pyrta gupan.	Plants to grow,
leaf gnenian.	<i>The</i> leaf to become green,
þæt on hærfest eft.	115 That again in harvest
hseft <sup>m</sup> and wealupað.	Falls and withers.
rinter bringeð.	Winter brings
peden ungemet cald.	Weather immoderately cold,
rsifte windas.	<i>And</i> swift winds.
Sumor æfter cymeð.	120 Summer afterwards comes,
pearf geseðe.	<i>And</i> warm weather.
Ðæt þa ponna niht.	Lo ! the dark night
mona onlihteð.	<i>The</i> moon enlightens,
oðæt monnum dæg.	Until day to men
runne bringeð.	125 <i>The</i> sun brings,

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<sup>m</sup> Literally, ceases, sc. to grow.

geond þar riðan zercept.	Over this wide creation.
Ðærð re ilca God.	The same God has
eorþan and pætere.	To earth and water
meapce zerette.	Bounds appointed.
mepe-ŕtream ne ðear.	130 <i>The</i> sea stream dares not
ofer eorþan ŕceat.	Over <i>the</i> region of <i>the</i> earth,
earð gebraðan.	Extend <i>their</i> province
ŕiŕca cýnne.	To <i>the</i> tribes of fish,
butan ŕnean leape.	Without its Lord's leave :
ne hio æŕpe ne mot.	135 Nor may it ever
eorþan þýŕŕc-pold.	<i>The</i> earth's threshold
up ofer ŕteppan.	Over-step ;
ne þa ebban þon ma.	Neither beyond the ebb
ŕoldeŕ meapce ofer.	May <i>the</i> boundaries of <i>the</i> land
ŕapan moton.	140 Ever advance.
þa zeretneŕra.	These <i>things</i> so ordered
ŕigona pealðend.	<i>The</i> Lord of victories,
liŕeŕ leoht ŕruma.	<i>The</i> origin of life's light,
læt þenden he pile.	Permits while he will,
geond þar mæpan zercept.	145 Over this great creation
meapce healðen.	<i>Their</i> limits to keep.
Ac þonne re eca.	But when the Eternal,
and re ælmihtiga.	And the Almighty,
þa zepeald-leþeru.	The reins
pile onlætan.	150 Will let go,
eŕne þapa bŕidla.	Even of the bridles,
þe he gebætte.	With which he curbed
mið hiŕ agen peopc.	His own work,
eall æt ŕŕýmðe.	All at <i>the</i> beginning ;

- 155 That is, *the* contrariety  
 Of each thing,  
 Which we by that bridle  
 Endeavour to denote;  
 If the Ruler permit  
 160 Them to be relaxed,  
 Soon would they forsake  
 Love and peace,  
*The* friendship  
 Of this union:  
 165 And every one would strive  
*After* its own will.  
 Worldly creatures  
 Would contend with each other,  
 Until this earth  
 170 All perished:  
 And in like manner,  
 Other creatures  
 Would bring themselves  
 Afterwards to naught.  
 175 But the same God  
 Who all that guides,  
 He joins many  
 People together,  
 And with friendship  
 180 Fast unites *them*.  
 He cements marriages,  
*And* forms relationship

clænlice lufe.	By virtuous love.
ƿpa ƿe cƿæƿtga eac.	So the Artificer also,
geƿeƿƿcƿaƿ.	185 Societies
ƿæƿte geƿamnað.	Firmly unites,
þæt hi hioƿa ƿneondƿcƿe.	That they their friendship,
ƿonð on ƿymbel.	Thenceforth always,
untƿeoƿealde.	Undivided,
tƿeoƿa gehealdað.	190 True should keep,
ƿibbe ƿamƿade.	Unanimously in peace.
Eala ƿigora Froð.	O God of victories !
ƿæƿ þiƿ moncýn.	This mankind would be
miclum geƿæliƿ.	Very happy,
giƿ hioƿa mod-ƿeƿa.	195 If their minds
meahte ƿeoƿþan.	Might be
ƿtaþolƿæƿt geƿeaht.	Rendered stable,
þuƿh þa ƿtƿonƿan meaht.	Through thy strong power,
and ge endebyrd.	And well ordered,
ƿpa ƿpa oðra ƿint.	200 Like as other
ƿonulð geƿceafra.	Worldly creatures are.
ƿæƿe hit la þonne.	O then it would be
muƿge mið monnum.	Merry with men,
giƿ hit meahte ƿpa.	If it might be so !

## METRE XII.\*

Se þe wille wýrcan.	HE that will cultivate
wæstmære lond.	Fertile land,
at 10 of þæm æcere.	Let him from the field,
ærst fora.	First pluck up
fearn and þornas.	5 Fern and thorns,
and fýrðas swa same wiod.	And furze, and also weeds ;
þa þe willað.	Which are disposed
we hwear deþian.	Every where to hurt
clænum hwæte.	The clean wheat :
þý lær he cýð-leas.	10 Lest without germinating
licge on þæm lande.	It lie in the land.
Ic leoda gehwæm.	To every people
þis oðru býren.	This other similitude
eorn beheru.	Is equally necessary,
þæt ic þæt te wýnceð.	15 Which is, that to every man
þegna gehwælcum.	Honey-comb
huniger bi-bread.	Appears
healde þý swetne.	The sweeter by half,
gif he hwene ear.	If he a little before
huniger teara.	20 The drop of honey,

\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. i. Qui serere ingenuum uolet agrum, &c.

bitneƿ onbýrgeð.  
 Bīð eac ƿpa ƿame.  
 monna æghƿlc.  
 micle þý ƿægenra.  
 liþeƿ ƿeðneƿ.  
 gýf hine lýtle ær.  
 ƿtopmaƿ geƿtonðað.  
 and ƿe ƿteapca ƿind.  
 noƿþan and eaƿtan.  
 Nænegum þuhte.  
 ðæg on þonce.  
 gýf ƿio ðimme niht.  
 ær oƿeƿ eldum.  
 egeƿan ne bƿohte.  
 Ðpa þincð anra gehƿæm.  
 eoƿð-buendra.  
 ƿio ƿoðe geƿælð.  
 ƿýmle þe beteƿe.  
 and þý ƿýnƿumpe.  
 þe he ƿita ma.  
 heaƿðra henþa.  
 heƿ aðneogeð.  
 Ðu meaht eac mýcle þý eð.  
 on moð-ƿeƿan.  
 ƿoþa geƿælþa.  
 ƿƿeoƿolon gecnapan.  
 and to heoƿa cýððe.  
 becuman ƿiðþan.  
 gýf þu up atýhrð.

Tastes *anything* bitter.  
 So in like manner is  
 Every man,  
 Much the happier  
 25 With fine weather,  
 If him a little before  
 Storms should oppress,  
 And the stark wind  
 From north and east.  
 30 To none would seem  
*The* day delightful,  
 If the dim night,  
 Before all men,  
 Terror did not bring.  
 35 So to every one appears,  
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* earth,  
 The true felicity,  
 Always the better,  
 And the more delightful,  
 40 As he more evils,  
 And severer troubles,  
 Here suffers.  
 Thou mayest also much the easier  
 In *thy* mind,  
 45 True felicities  
 More clearly know,  
 And to their country  
 Afterwards come,  
 If thou pluckest up,

τ rona.	50 First of all,
u apýrtpalart.	And thou rootest
πit-locan.	Out of <i>thy</i> mind,
gerælþa.	False felicities ;
pa londeſ-ceoſl.	As a husbandman
ſ æcepe lýcð.	55 From his field pulls up
peoð monig.	Many an evil weed.
n ic þe recge.	Afterwards I tell thee,
þu ppeotole meaht.	That thou clearly mayest,
gerælþa.	True felicities
oncnapan.	60 Soon know :
u æfre ne neçſt.	And thou never wilt
ſ þinger.	Care for any thing,
þa ane.	Above them alone,
u hi ealleſ ongiſt.	If thou fully discoverest them.

## METRE XIII.\*

lle mið giððum.	I WILL with songs
ſecýþan.	Still declare,
e ælmihtiga.	How the Almighty
gerceapta.	All creatures
ð mið hſ bſiðlum.	5 Governs with his bridle,—
þiðeſ he pile.	Bends where he will,—
hſ anpealde.	With his well ordered

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ii. *Quantas rerum flectat habenas, &c.*



ge endebýrð.	Power,
pundorlice.	Wonderfully
pel gemetgað.	10 Well moderates.
harað rpa zeheafonað.	<i>The</i> Ruler of <i>the</i> heavens
heorona pealdbend.	Has so controlled,
utan befangen.	<i>And</i> encompassed
ealla gerceafta.	All creatures,
geræped mid hý nacentan.	15 <i>And</i> bound them with his chains,
þæt hý aþedían ne maƷon.	That they cannot find out
þæt hý hý æfre him.	That they ever from them
of aŷlepen.	May slip :
and þeah puhta zehpílç.	And yet every thing,
ppígað to-heald. <sup>p</sup>	20 Of various creatures,
riðna gerceafta.	Tends with proneness,
ppiðe onhelled.	Strongly. inclined
pið þær zecýnðer.	To that nature,
þe hý cýning engla.	Which <i>the</i> King of angels,
Ʒæðer æt ppýmðe.	25 <i>The</i> Father at <i>the</i> beginning,
Ʒærte zetíode.	Firmly appointed them.
rpa nu þínƷa zehpílç.	Thus every one of things,
þíðer-pearð funðað.	Of various creatures,
riðna gerceafta.	Thitherward aspires,
buƷon řumum englum.	30 Except some angels,
and moncýnne.	And mankind ;
þara micler to řeola.	Of whom much too many,
popold-puniendna.	Dwellers in the world,
pinð pið zecýnðe.	Strive against <i>their</i> nature.

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<sup>p</sup> Lye renders this line, tendit proclivis.

Deah nu on londe.	35 Though now on land,
leon gemete.	A docile lion,
pȳnrume pīht.	A pleasing creature,
pel atemeðe.	Well tamed,
hīpe maȝiſter.	Her master
miclum lufiȝe.	40 Much love,
and eac onðræde.	And also fear,
doȝopa ȝehpelce.	Every day ;
ȝif hīt æfre ȝeſælð.	If it ever happen,
þæt hīo ænīȝeſ.	That she any
blodeſ onbȳrȝeð.	45 Blood should taste,
ne þearf beorpa nan.	No man need
penan þære pȳrde.	Expect the chance,
þæt hīo pel ſiðþan.	That she well afterwards,
hīpe taman <sup>9</sup> healde	Her tameness will keep :
ac ic tīohhīe.	50 But I think
þæt hīo þæſ nīpan taman.	That she this new tameness,
nauht ne ȝehicȝȝe.	Will naught regard ;
ac þone pīðan ȝepunan,	But will remember
pille ȝeþencan.	The wild habits
hīpe elðpēna.	55 Of her parents.
onȝinð eopneſte.	<i>She</i> will begin in earnest
pacentan ſlitan.	<i>Her</i> chains to sever,
pȳn ȝnȳmetiȝan.	To roar,
and æpeſt abīt.	And first will bite
hīpe aȝeneſ.	60 Her own

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<sup>9</sup> Lye renders *tama*, domitor, a tamer ; he has, however, no authority besides this passage ; and as the context both in this and in the fifty-first line denotes a condition, I have ventured to translate it tameness.

hureȝ hīrde.	Master ;
and hƿaðe ȝīðþan.	And quickly afterwards,
hæleþa ȝehƿīlcne.	Every man,
þe hīo ȝehentan mæg.	Whom she can seize.
nele hīo ƿorlætān.	65 She will not let go
libbender ƿuht.	Any living thing,
neata ne monna.	Of cattle or men :
nīmð eall ꝥ hīo ƿīnt.	<i>She</i> will seize all she finds.
ðƿa doð ƿudu-ƿuglaȝ.	So do the wood birds,
þeah hī ƿel ȝīen.	70 Though they are
tela atemedē.	Well tamed :
ȝīf hī on tƿeopum ƿeorþað.	If they are among trees
holte to middeȝ.	In <i>the</i> midst of <i>the</i> wood,
hƿaðe bīoð ȝorȝepene.	Immediately their teachers
heopa laƿeopaȝ.	75 Are despised,
þe hī lange ær.	Though they long before,
tyðon ȝ temedon.	Taught and tamed <i>them</i> .
hī on tƿeopum ƿīlde.	They wild in <i>the</i> trees,
eald-ȝecynde.	In <i>their</i> old nature,
á ȝorð ȝīðþan.	80 Ever afterwards,
ƿīllum ƿuniað.	Willingly remain ;
þeah hīm ƿolde hƿīlc.	Though to them would,
heopa laƿeopa.	Each of their teachers,
hȝrtum beodan.	Skilfully offer,
þone īlcan mete.	85 The same meat,
þe he hī æroȝ mīð.	That he before
tame ȝetedē.	Tamed them with ;
hīm þa tƿīȝu ȝīncað.	The branches seem to them
emne ȝƿa meȝȝe.	Even so merry,

þæt hi þær meter ne pecð.	90 That they for meat care not :
þincð him to þon pýnrum.	It seems to them so pleasant,
þæt him ƿe pealð oncpýð.	That to them the forest echoes :
þonne hi gehenað.	When they hear
hleoþrum brægdan. <sup>r</sup>	Other birds
oðre fugelaƿ.	95 Spread <i>their</i> sound,
hi heopa agne.	They their own
ƿteƿne ƿtýmað.	Voice raise.
ƿtunað eal geaðor.	<i>They</i> stun the ears altogether
pel-pýnrum ƿanc.	With <i>their</i> joyful song,
ƿuðu eallum oncpýð.	100 <i>The</i> wood all resounds.
Đpa bið eallum tƿeopum.	So is it with all trees,
þe him on æpele bið.	Which are in their own soil,
þæt hit on holte.	That each in <i>the</i> wood
hyhƿt geƿeaxe.	Highest shall grow.
þeah þu hƿlcne boh.	105 Though thou any bough
býge ƿið eorþan.	Bendest towards <i>the</i> earth,
he bið uppeaƿder.	It is upwards,
ƿƿa þu an ƿoplaeteƿt.	As soon as thou lettest <i>it</i> go :
ƿiðu on ƿillan.	Wide at will,
ƿent on gecýnde.	110 <i>It</i> turns to <i>its</i> nature.
Đpa deð eac ƿio ƿunne.	So does also the sun,
þonne hio on ƿige ƿeoƿþeð.	When she is declining,
oƿer miðne dæg.	After mid-day,—
meƿe condel.	The great candle,
ƿcýƿt on oƿðæle.	115 Verges to her setting,

<sup>r</sup> Lye, in his Supplement, considers brægdan to be the participle of brægan, and renders the line strepitu dilatato. I have, however, taken the liberty of rendering it as an infinitive.

uncuðne peƷ.		<i>The unknown way</i>
nihƿeƷ Ʒeneþeð.		Of night subdues :
noƿð eƿt Ʒ eaƿt.		Again north and east
ełdum otepeð.		Appears to men,
bƿencð eoƿð-ƿaƿum.	120	Brings to earth's inhabitants
moƿƷen meƿe toƿhtne.		Morning greatly splendid.
hio oƿeƿ moncƷn ƿtihð.		She over mankind goes
á upƿeaƿdeƿ.		Continually upwards,
oð hio eƿt cƷmeð.		Until she again comes,
þaƿ hƷe Ʒƿemeƿt bið.	125	Where her highest
eaƿð-ƷecƷnde.		Natural station is.
ðƿa ƿƿa ælc Ʒeƿceƿt.		So every creature,
ealle mæƷene.		With all its might,
Ʒeond þaƿ ƿıdan ƿoƿulð.		Throughout this wide world,
ƿƿıƷað Ʒ hıƷað.	130	Strives and hastens,
ealle mæƷene.		With all its might,
eƿt ƷƷmle on lƷt.		Again ever inclines
ƿıð hıƿ ƷecƷndeƿ.		Towards its nature,
cƷmð to þonne hit mæƷ.		<i>And</i> comes to <i>it</i> when it may.
Nıƿ nu oƿeƿ eoƿþan.	135	There is not now over the eart
æneƷu Ʒeƿceƿt.		Any creature,
þe ne ƿılne þæt hio.		Which does not desire,
ƿolde cuman.		That it should come,
to þam eaƿðe.		To that region,
þe hio oƿ becom.	140	Which it came from,
þæt ıƿ oƿƿoƿƷneƿ.		That is, security,
and ecu ƿeƿt.		And eternal rest ;
þæt ıƿ openlıce.		Which is clearly,
ælmıhtı Ġoð.		Almighty God.

Nīȝ nu oȝer eorþan.	145	There is not now over the earth
æneȝu ȝerċearȝ.		Any creature,
þe ne hƿearȝige.		Which does not revolve
ȝƿa ȝƿa hƿeol deð.		As a wheel does,
on hīe ȝelȝne.		On itself ;
ƿorþon hīo ȝƿa hƿearȝað.	150	For it so turns,
þæt hīo eȝt cume.		That it again comes,
þær hīo æroȝ ƿær.		Where it before was.
þonne hīo æreȝt ȝie.		When it is first
utan behƿerȝed.		Put in circular motion,
þonne hīo ealleȝ ȝȝrð.	155	Then it altogether is
utan beceȝned.		Turned round ;
hīo ȝceol eȝt ðon.		It must again do
þæt hīo ær ðȝde.		That which before it did,
and eac ƿeȝan.		And also be,
þæt hīo æroȝ ƿær.	160	What it before was.

## METRE XIV.\*

hƿæt bið þæm ƿeleȝan.	WHAT is <i>it</i> to the rich
ƿoruld-ȝitȝere.	Worldly miser,
on hīȝ mode þe bet.	In his mind the better,
þeah he micel aȝe.	Though he possess much
ȝoldeȝ ȝ ȝimma.	5 Of gold and gems,

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iii. Quamvis fluente dives auri gurgite, &c.

and gooda gehpær.	And of every kind of goods
æhta unrim.	Immense possessions?
and him mon erigen rcyle.	And for him men shall plough
æghpelce dæg.	Every day,
æcepa þurend.	10 A thousand fields?
Deah þer middan gearð.	Though this middle earth,
and þis manna cýn.	And this race of men,
ry under runnan.	Under <i>the</i> sun,
ruð per̃t 7 ear̃t.	South west and east,
his anpalde eall.	15 Be to his power
underþieded.	All subjected,
ne mot he þara hýrta.	He cannot of these ornaments
hiona ne lædan.	Hence take away,
of þisse worulde.	From this world,
puhte þon mare.	20 Anything the more
horð-geŕteona.	Of his treasures,
þonne he hiþer brohte.	Than he hither brought.
Ða se Wiŕdom þa þis lioð <sup>t</sup>	When Wisdom had sung
arungen hæfde. þa ongan	This lay, then he began
he eŕt ŕpellian and cpæð. 25	Again to speak, and said.

METRE XV.<sup>a</sup>

Deah hine nu.	THOUGH now himself
re ypela unrihtŕira.	The evil, unrighteous

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<sup>t</sup> This and the two following lines are prose.

<sup>a</sup> Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iv. Quamvis se Tyrío superbus ostro, &c.

1 cýning.	King, Nero,
gercepte.	Newly adorned,
im pædum.	5 With splendid garments,
alice.	Wonderfully
gezlenzde.	Decorated <i>himself</i> with gold
m-cýnnum.	And jewels ;
ie pær on worulde.	Nevertheless he was in the world,
gehælcum.	10 To every wise man,
· lif-dagum.	In his lifetime,
ð unweorð.	Loathsome and unworthy,
· full.	Full of crimes.
re feond swa þeah.	Although the fiend,
orlingas.	15 His favourites
im gesepte.	With honours decked,
eg ic þeah gehýcgan.	I nevertheless cannot discover
m on hige þorste.	Why to them in their mind,
el wegan.	<i>He</i> needed the better to be.
u sume hwile.	20 Though sometimes those
ð butan cræftum.	Without virtues,
a dýregast.	The most foolish of kings chose,
· hy þý weorðran.	They were not the more worthy
ænezum.	To any one of the wise.
une re dýrta.	25 Though the foolish
cýninge.	Make himself a king,
eg þ gerceadwif.	How can a wise
geþeccan.	Man reckon,
e him þý welra.	That he to him the better
ðe wince.	30 Should be or seem ?



## METRE XVI.\*

Se þe wille anpald agon.	He that will power possess,
þonne sceal he ærfeƿt tilian.	Then shall he first endeavour
þæt he his selfes.	That he of himself,
on gefan aze.	In his mind,
anpald innan.	5 Power may possess :
þy lær hi æfre fe.	Lest he ever be,
his unfeapum.	To his vices,
eall underþyded.	All subjected.
ado of his mode.	Let him put away from his mind
myrcna fela.	10 A great variety
þara ymbhogona.	Of those cares,
þe him unnet fe.	Which are unprofitable to him :
læte fume hwile.	(Cease awhile
fofunga.	From thy complaints
and efmþa þinna.	15 And miseries.)
Deah him eall fe.	Though to him should be,
þes middan gearð.	This middle earth,
ƿpa ƿpa mefe-ƿtreamas.	As the seas
utan belicgað.	Surround it,
on æht gifen.	20 For a possession given,

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. v. Qui se uolet esse potentem, &c.

ˆ ƿpa ƿiðe.  
 ƿpa ƿeƿmeƿt nu.  
 Ʒlonð liƷð.  
 on ƷaƿƿecƷ.  
 nængu bið.  
 ˆ on ƿumeƿa.  
 ƿuhte þon ma.  
 ƿintƿa ðæg.  
 eled tīdum.  
 1ƿ Tile haten.  
 1 nu anƿa hƿa.  
 eƿ ƿealðe.  
 iƷlander.  
 eac þonan.  
 Indear.  
 ˆe-ƿeapðe.  
 1 he nu þ eall.  
 1 mote.  
 bið hiƿ anƿalð.  
 te þȳ maƿa.  
 he ƿiðþan nah.  
 ƿelfeƿ Ʒeƿealð.  
 þancer.  
 hine eoƿneƿte.  
 ne beƿapenað.  
 dum ȳ ðædum.  
 þa unþeapƿ.  
 ƿe ȳmb ƿƿnecað.

Even as wide,  
 As most westward now,  
 An island lies,  
 Out in the ocean,  
 25 Where is no  
 Night in summer,  
 Nor aught the more  
 Day in winter  
 Reckoned,  
 30 Which is called Thule;  
 Though now any one  
 Ruled all  
 This island,  
 And also thence  
 35 To *the* Indies  
 Eastward;  
 Though he now all that  
 Might possess,  
 Why would his power be  
 40 Aught the greater,  
 If he afterwards have not  
 Power over  
 His own mind,  
 And himself in earnest,  
 45 Does not well guard,  
 In words and deeds,  
 Against the vices,  
 That we are speaking about?

## METRE XVII.\*

Ðæt eorðþapan.  
 ealle hæfden.  
 fold-buende.  
 fruman gelicne.  
 hi of anum træm.  
 ealle comon.  
 þere 7 þife.  
 on woruld innan.  
 and hi eac nu get.  
 ealle gelice.  
 on woruld cumað.  
 plance 7 heane.  
 nis þ nan pundor.  
 forþæm witan ealle.  
 þæt an God is.  
 ealra gecrefta.  
 frea moncýnnes.  
 fæder and fceppend.  
 se þære funnan leoht.  
 feleð of heofonum.

*Wisdom said* that mortals  
 Inhabiting *the* earth,  
 All had  
 A like beginning;  
 5 They from one pair,  
 All came,  
 Men and women  
 Into *the* world;  
 And they also still  
 10 All alike  
 Into *the* world come,  
 Rich and poor.  
 This is no wonder,  
 For all know  
 15 That *there* is one God  
 Of all creatures,  
 Lord of mankind,  
 Father and Creator.  
 He to the sun light  
 20 Gives from heaven,

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vi, Omne hominum genus in terris, &c.

monan ⁊ þýrum <sup>⁷</sup> mærum	To <i>the</i> moon and these bright
ƿteopnum.	stars.
ƿe ƿeƿceop men on eorþan.	He created men on earth,
and ƿeramnade.	And united
ƿaple to lice.	<i>The</i> soul to <i>the</i> body,
æt ƿuman æƿeƿt.	25 First at <i>the</i> beginning.
ƿolc under ƿolcnum.	<i>He</i> created equally noble
emn æþele ƿeƿceop.	The people under the clouds,
æghƿilcne mon.	Every man.
hwý ƿe þonne æƿne.	Why do ye then ever,
oƿer oðre men.	30 Over other men,
oƿermodiƿen.	Proudly exalt yourselves,
buton andƿeorce.	Without cause,
nu ƿe unæþelne.	Since ye do not find
ænig ne metað.	Any ignoble?
hwý ƿe eop ƿor æþelum.	35 Why do ye for your nobility
up ahebben nu.	Lift up yourselves?
On þam mode bið.	In the mind is
monna ƿehƿilcum.	To every one of men
þa riht æþelo.	The true nobility
þe ic þe ƿecce ýmb.	40 That I am telling thee about;
naleſ on þam ƿlærce.	Not in the flesh
ƿold-buendra.	Of the dwellers upon earth.
Ac nu æghƿilc mon.	But now every man,
þe mid ealle bið.	That withal is
hiſ unþeapum.	45 To his vices
underþieðeð.	Subjected;

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<sup>⁷</sup> MS. þýr.

he forlæt ærſt.	He first forsakes
lifer fnum-ſceapt.	The first origin of life,
and his aſene.	And his own
æþelo ſpa ſelſe.	50 So peculiar nobility;
and eac þone fæder.	And also the Father,
þe hine æt fnuman ƒerſceop.	Who him at first created.
forþæm hine anæþelað.	Therefore, Almighty God
ælmihƒig God.	Will him degrade,
þæt he unæþele.	55 That he ignoble
á forþ þanan.	Ever, thenceforth
þýrð on peopulde.	In <i>the</i> world may be,
to pulðne ne cýmð.	<i>And</i> not come to glory.

## METRE XVIII.\*

Eala þ ƒe ýcla.	ALAS! that the evil,
unrihta ƒedeð.	Unrighteous,
ƒƒaþa ƒilla.	Violent desire
poh-hæmeter.	Of unlawful lust should,
þæt he mid ealle ƒeðræƒð.	5 —That it withal should trouble
anra ƒehƒýlceƒ.	Full nigh the mind
monna cýnneƒ.	Of every one
moð fulneah þon.	Of the human race!

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vii. Habet omnis hoc voluptas, &c.

ƿio ƿilbe beo.	Now the wild bee,
ƿiſ ƿie.	10 Though she be wise,
ƿa ƿceal.	Shall at once,
ƿorpeorþan.	Altogether perish,
uo ýppunga.	If she angrily
ƿ ƿtingeð.	Anything sting.
ƿceal ƿapla ƿehƿilc.	15 So shall every soul
in loſian.	Afterwards perish,
ƿe lichoma.	If the body
ƿgan ƿeorþeð.	Be guilty of
ht-hæmede.	Adultery ;
ƿ him æſ cume.	20 Unless to it previously come
ƿ to heortan.	Repentance to the heart,
ƿe hionan ƿende.	Before it depart hence.

## METRE XIX.\*

ƿ ƿ heſiſ ðýſiſ.	ALAS! that is a grievous folly,
ð ýmbe ƿe þe ƿile.	Let him consider it who will,
ƿnecenlic.	And dangerous,
ƿehƿilcum.	To every man,
þa eapman men.	5 Which these wretched men
ealle ƿeðƿæleð.	Entirely seduces
ƿæm ƿihtan ƿege.	From the right way,—

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. viii. Eheu, quam miseros tramite devio, &c.

ƿecene alædeð.	Continually misled !
Ðƿæþeƿ Ʒe ƿillen.	Do ye now desire
on ƿuða ƿecan.	10 In woods to seek
Ʒold þæt ƿeade.	The red gold,
on Ʒƿenum tƿiopum.	On green trees ?
Ic ƿat ƿƿa þeah.	I know, however,
þæt hit ƿitena nan.	That no wise man
þideƿ ne ƿeceð.	15 Seeks it there ;
ƿonþæm hit þæƿ ne ƿexð.	For it grows not there,
ne on ƿinƷeapðum.	Nor in vineyards
ƿlitize Ʒimmar.	Beautiful gems.
Ðƿý Ʒe nu ne ƿettan.	Why do ye now not set
on ƿume ðune.	20 On some hill
ƿiƿc net eoƿƿu.	Your fishing net,
þonne eoƿ ƿon lýtceð.	When you desire to take
leax oððe cýpeƿan. <sup>b</sup>	Salmon or carp ?
Me Ʒelicoƿt þincð.	To me <i>it</i> seems most likely,
þæt te ealle ƿiten.	25 That all inhabitants of earth,
eoƿð-buende.	Wise in mind,
þoncol-mode.	Know that they
þæt hi þæƿ ne ƿint.	Are not there.
Ðƿæþeƿ Ʒe nu ƿillen.	Are ye now desirous
ƿæþan mið hundum.	30 To hunt with hounds
on ƿealtne ƿæ.	In <i>the</i> salt sea,
þonne eoƿ ƿecan lýt.	When you wish to seek
heoƿotaƿ ƿ hinða.	Harts and hinds ?

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<sup>b</sup> Lye does not give a definite translation to cýpeƿa, but calls it piscis genus. My translation is merely conjectural.

- þu gehýcgan meahȝ.  
 þæt ge pillað þa.  
 on puda recan.  
 oȝton micle.  
 þonne ut on ȝæ.  
 Iȝ þ̅ pundoplic:  
 þæt pe pitan ealle.  
 þæt mon recan ȝceal.  
 be ȝæ-papoðe.  
 and be ea-oȝnum.  
 æþele gímmar.  
 hƿite and ƿeade.  
 and hƿa gehƿær.  
 hƿæt hi eac ƿiton.  
 hƿær hi ea-ƿiȝcar.  
 ȝecan þurȝan.  
 and ȝƿýlcȝa ȝela.  
 ƿeopulð-ƿelena.  
 hi þ̅ pel doð.  
 ȝeoȝnȝulle men.  
 ȝeapa ȝehƿílċ.  
 ac þ̅ iȝ earȝmlicorȝ.  
 ealȝa þingȝ.  
 þæt þa ðýȝegan ȝint.  
 on ȝedƿolan ƿoȝdene.  
 eȝne ȝƿa blinde.  
 þæt hi on bƿeoȝtum ne maȝon.  
 eaðe ȝecnapan.  
 hƿær þa ecan ȝood.
- Thou mayest suppose  
 35 That ye will them  
 In woods seek  
 Much oftener,  
 Than out in *the* sea.  
 Is it wonderful  
 40 That we all know  
 That any one must seek  
 By the sea shore,  
 And by river banks,  
 Noble gems,  
 45 White and red,  
 And of every kind of hue?  
 They moreover know,  
 Where they river fishes  
 Ought to seek,  
 50 And many such  
 Worldly acquisitions:  
 They do this well,  
 Prudent men,  
 Every year.  
 55 But this is the most wretched  
 Of all things,  
 That foolish men are  
 So in error,  
 Even so blind,  
 That they in *their* breasts cannot  
 Easily know,  
 Where the eternal good,



roþa Ʒerælþa.	True felicities
Ʒindon Ʒehýðða.	Are hidden ;
Ʒonþæm hī æfre ne lýrt. 65	Therefore they never care
æfter Ʒpýrian.	To inquire after,
Ʒecan þa Ʒerælþa.	To seek these felicities.
Þenað rampyre.	<i>They</i> unwise think,
þæt hī on þis lænan mægen.	That they in this transitory
līfe Ʒindan.	70 Life may find
roþa Ʒerælþa.	True felicities,
þæt iſ Ʒelfa God.	That is God <i>Himself</i> .
Ic nat hu ic mæge.	I know not how I may
nænige þinga.	In any respect
ealles Ʒpa Ʒpíðe.	75 Altogether so greatly,
on ƷeƷan minum.	In my judgment,
hioþa dýrīƷ tælan.	Their folly reprove
Ʒpa hit me don lýrteð.	As I wish to do :
ne ic þe Ʒpa ƷƷeotole.	Nor it so clearly
ƷeƷecƷan ne mæƷ.	80 May I declare.
Ʒonþæm hīƷ <sup>e</sup> Ʒint eapmpan.	For they are more wretched,
and eac dýreƷnan.	And also more foolish,
unƷeƷælīƷnan.	<i>And</i> more unhappy,
þonne ic þe ƷecƷan mæge.	Than I to thee can describe.
hī Ʒilniað.	85 They desire
Ʒelan and æhta.	Wealth and possessions,
and ƷeopðƷcīƷeſ.	And dignity
to ƷeƷinnanne.	To acquire ;
þonne hī habbað þæt.	When they have that

hiora hize receð.  
 penað þonne.  
 ſpa Ʒepitleare.  
 þæt hi þa ſoþan.  
 ƷeƷælþa hæbben.

90 *Which* their minds seek,  
*They* then suppose,  
 So foolish *are they*,  
 That they true  
 Felicities possess.

METRE XX.<sup>d</sup>

Eala min Drihten.  
 þæt þu eaƷt ælmihtig.  
 micel modilic.  
 mæƷum ƷeƷnæƷe.  
 and þundorlic.  
 Ʒitena ƷehƷylcum.  
 ÐƷæt þu ece God.  
 ealra ƷeƷceafra.  
 þundorlice.  
 pel ƷeƷceope.  
 unƷeƷepenlicra.<sup>e</sup>  
 and eac ſpa ſame.  
 ƷeƷepenlicra.  
 ƷoƷte pealderc.  
 ƷcƷnra ƷeƷceafra.  
 mid ƷeƷceadƷum.

O, my Lord!  
 Thou who art Almighty,  
 Great, magnanimous,  
 For miracles celebrated,  
 5 And wonderful,  
 To every one of the wise!  
 Thou eternal God!  
 All creatures  
 Wonderfully  
 10 Well hast made,  
*Those which are* invisible,  
 And also the same,  
*Those which are* seen;  
 Thou softly rulest  
 15 *The* pure creatures,  
 With rational

<sup>d</sup> Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ix. O qui perpetuâ mundum ratione gubernas, &c.

<sup>e</sup> MS. unƷeƷepenlica.

mægne 7 cræfte.	Power and skill.
Ðu þýrne middan gearð.	Thou this middle earth
ƿrom ƿruman æƿerst.	From <i>the</i> first beginning,
ƿorð oð ende.	20 Forth until <i>the</i> end,
tidum todælder.	By times hast divided,
ƿpa hit zetæroft ƿær.	As it was most suitable
endebýrder.	For order : •
þæt hi æghræþer.	That they both
ge arƿarað.	25 Depart
ge eftcumað.	And again return.
Ðu þe unſtilla.	Thou thine own
agna geſceafta.	Restless creatures
to þinum ƿillan.	To thy will
ƿiſlice aſtýneſt.	30 Wisely movest,
and þe relf ƿunæſt.	And thou thyself remainest
ƿriðe ſtille.	Very still,
unanpendenðlic. <sup>f</sup>	Unchangeable,
á ƿorð ƿimle.	Always, for ever !
nýr nan mihtigra.	35 No one is mightier,
ne nan mærra.	Nor <i>is</i> any greater,
ne geond ealle þa geſceaft.	Nor through all the creation,
eſnlica þin.	<i>Is any</i> equal to thee.
ne þe ænig neð-þearf nær.	To thee no need there was
æfre giet ealra.	40 Ever yet of all

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<sup>f</sup> In the MS. these two lines stand,  
 unanpendenðlica.  
 ƿorð ƿimle.

The adverb *a*, through the error of some transcriber, was added to *unanpendenðlic*, which, in copying a MS. was a very possible mistake.

þara peorca.	The works,
þe þu ȝeƿorht hafar̃t.	Which thou hast made ;
ac mid þinum pillan.	But by thy will
þu hit ƿorhteȝ eall.	Thou madest it all,
and mid anƿalde.	45 And by thine
þinum aȝenum.	Own power,
ƿeorulde ȝeƿorhtor̃t.	Didst create <i>the</i> world,
and ƿuhta ȝehƿæt.	And every creature ;
þeah þe næneȝu.	Though to thee
ned-þearf ƿæne eallra.	50 Was no necessity of all
þara mæraþa.	These miracles !
Iȝ þ̃ micel ȝecȳnd.	Great is the nature
þineȝ ȝooder̃.	Of thy goodness ;—
þencð ȳmb ȝe þe ƿile.	- Consider it who will :
ƿorþon hit iȝ eall an.	55 For it is all one
ælceȝ þincȝer̃.	In every thing,
þu ȝ þ̃ þin ȝood.	Thou and thy good ;
hit iȝ þin aȝen.	It is thine own,
ƿorþæm hit niȝ <sup>ε</sup> utan.	For it is not from without,
ne com auht to þe.	60 Nor did aught come to thee.
Ac ic ȝeorne ƿæt.	But I well know,
þæt þin ȝoodner̃ iȝ.	That thy goodness is
ælmih̃tiȝ ȝood.	Almighty good,
eall mid þe ȝelfum.	All with thyself.
Hit iȝ unȝelic.	65 It is unlike
uȝum ȝecȳnde.	To our nature :
uȝ iȝ utan cȳmen.	To us from without came

eall þa pe habbað.	All that we have
gooda on Ʒrundum.	Of goods on earth,
Ʒrom Gode Ʒelfum.	70 From God himself.
NæƷt þu to ænegum.	Thou hast not towards any
andan Ʒenumenne.	Conceived envy,
Ʒoþam þe nan þing niƷ.	For nothing is
þin Ʒelica.	Like unto thyself;
ne hupu æniƷ.	75 Nor <i>is</i> any
ælcræƷtiƷne.	More skilful :
Ʒoþam þu eal good.	For thou all good,
aner ƷeþeahƷe.	Of thine own thought,
þiner ƷeþohƷeƷt.	Didst devise,
and hi þa ƷoƷhteƷt.	80 And then didst it create.
næƷ æƷop þe. <sup>h</sup>	There was not before thee
ænegu ƷeƷceafƷt.	Any creature,
þe auht oððe nauht.	Which either aught or naught
auþer ƷoƷhte.	Could make,
Ac þu butan býrne.	85 But thou without a pattern,
bneƷo moncýnneƷ.	Ruler of mankind,
æl ælmihtig God.	All Almighty God,
eall ƷeƷoƷhteƷt.	Madest all
þing þeaple good.	Things very good;
eapƷ þe Ʒelfa.	90 And thou thyself art
þæt hehƷte good.	The highest good!
ÐƷæt þu halig fæðeƷ.	Thou, O Holy Father,
æƷƷeƷ þinum willan.	After thy will,
Ʒopulð ƷeƷceope.	Didst <i>the</i> world create,

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<sup>h</sup> MS. næƷ æƷopþe.

þīrne miððan gearð.	95 This middle earth,
meahtum þinum.	By thy power,
ƿeopada Drihten.	Lord of Hosts,
ƿpa þu ƿoldeſt ƿelf.	As thou thyself wouldest;
and mið þinum ƿillan.	And with thy will
ƿealdeſt ealler.	100 Governest <i>it</i> all!
ƿonþæm þu ƿoþa God.	For thou, O true God,
ƿelfa ðæleſt.	Didst thyself distribute
ƿoðða æghƿilc.	All goods;
ƿonþæm þu geara ær.	For thou long ago,
ealle <sup>1</sup> ġeƿceafra.	105 All creatures
æneſt ġeƿceope.	Didst first create,
ƿriðe ġelice.	Very much alike,
ƿumer ħƿæþne þeah.	Yet in some degree
unġelice.	Unlike;
nealdeſt eall ƿpa þeah.	110 Yet thou didst name all
mið ane noman.	With one name,
ealle toġæðene.	All together,
ƿoruld under ƿolcnum.	THE WORLD under the clouds.
Ħƿæt þu ƿulðneſ God.	But thou, O God of glory!
þone anne naman.	115 That one name
eſt toðældeſ.	Didst again divide,
ƿæðen on ƿeopen.	O Father, into four:
ƿæſ þana ƿolde an.	Of these one was <u>earth</u> ,
and ƿæteſ oþer.	And the second <u>water</u> ,
ƿorulde ðæleſ.	120 Of the divisions of the world,

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<sup>1</sup> Hickes states that ealla is used poetically for ealle: but I am inclined to think that ealla, when it occurs in Boethius, is inaccurate, and have therefore corrected the MS. reading.

and fȳr iſ þriddē.  
and feoperðe lȳrt.  
þæt iſ eall weoruld.  
eft toġæðere.

Ðabbað þeah þa feoper. 125 Yet have the four  
fnum-ſtol hiora.  
æghwīlc hiora.  
aġenne fteðe.  
þeah anra hwīlc.  
wið oþer fīe.  
mīclum ġemenġed.  
and mīd mæġne eac.  
fæder ælmihtigeſ.  
fæſte ġebunden.  
ġewīblīce.

forfe toġæðere.  
mīd bebode þīne.  
bīlewiſ fæder.  
þæt te heora ænig.  
oþreſ ne doſſe.  
mearc oferġangan.  
for metodeſ ege.  
ac ġeðweorod fīnt.  
þeġnar toġæðere.  
cȳningeſ cempa.  
cele wið hæto.  
pæt wið dſyġum.  
pīnnað hwæþne.  
pæteſ ȝ eorðe.

And *the* third is fire,  
And *the* fourth air;  
That is all the world  
Again together.

130 Be with other  
Much mixed;  
And also by the power  
Of *the* Father Almighty  
Fast bound,

135 Peaceably,  
And suitably together,  
By thy command,  
O merciful Father!  
So that any of them  
140 Durst not *the* others  
Boundary overpass,  
For dread of *the* Creator;  
But they are consenting  
Servants together,  
145 Soldiers of the king.  
Cold with heat,  
Wet with dry,  
However strive.  
Water and earth

pærtmar bþengað.	150 Bring fruits ;
þa rint on gecýnde.	These are by nature
cealða ba tpa.	Both cold.
pæter pæt 7 cealb.	Water wet and cold,
pangar ýmbe-liczað.	Lieth round <i>the</i> fields.
eorðe æl gþeno.	155 With the earth all green
eac hpæþne cealb lýrt.	The cold air nevertheless
is gemenged.	Is mingled,
forþæm hio on middum punað.	For it in <i>the</i> middle dwells.
nir þ nan pundor.	It is no wonder
þæt hio rie pearm 7 cealb.	160 That it is warm and cold,—
pæt polcner tier.	<i>The</i> wet expanse of clouds
pinde geblonden.	Mingled by the wind ;
forþæm hio is on midle.	For it is in the middle,
mine gefræge.	In my opinion,
fyner 7 eorþan.	165 Between fire and earth.
Fela monna pæt.	Many men know
þæt te ýfremeft is.	That <u>fire</u> is the uppermost
eallra gerceafta.	Of all creatures
fyf oþer eorþan.	Over <i>the</i> earth,
forðe neofemeft.	170 <i>And the ground the lowest.</i>
Is þæt pundorlic.	Wonderful is that,
þeþoda Drihten.	O Lord of Hosts !
þæt þu mid gefeahte.	Which thou with thine
þinum pýncert.	Own counsel workest ;
þæt þu þæm gerceaftum.	175 That thou to thy creatures
rya gerceadlice.	So wisely
meapce getettert.	Settest bounds,
and hi ne mengder eac.	And moreover dost not mix them.



Ðpæt þu þæm pættepe.	Thou to the water
pætum 7 cealdum.	180 Wet and cold,
ƿoldan to ƿlope.	<i>The</i> earth for a floor
ƿærte ƿerettert.	Firmly settest ;
ƿorþæm hit unſtille.	Because it <i>being</i> restless,
æghƿider ƿolde.	Would everywhere
ƿide toſcƿiþan.	185 Widely wander,
ƿac and hnerce.	Weak and soft ;
ne meahthe hit on him ƿelfum.	Nor could it of itself,
ƿoð ic ƿeape ƿat.	(I well know <i>it is</i> true)
æfne ƿerſtanðan.	Ever stand :
ac hit ƿio eorðe.	190 But the earth
hilt 7 ƿƿelgeð eac.	Holds it, and also imbibes,
be ſumum ðæle.	In some measure,
þæt hio ƿiðþan mæg.	That it afterwards may,
ƿor þæm ƿype ƿeorþan.	Through that moistening be
ƿeleht lýtum.	195 Lightened by the air.
ƿorþæm leaƿ 7 ƿærſ.	Therefore leaves and grass,
bræð ƿeond Brētene.*	Wide over Britain,
blopeð 7 ƿropeð.	Blow and grow,
eldum to aƿe.	For wealth to men.
Eorðe ƿio cealde.	200 The cold earth
brænð ƿærſma ƿela.	Bringeth many fruits,
ƿundorlicra.	More wonderful,
ƿorþæm hio mid þæm pætepe.	Because it with the water
ƿeorþað ƿeþapened.	Is moistened.

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\* This passage, among others, shews that Alfred applied the reasonings and language of Boethius to himself and his own country.

gif þ̅ nære.	205 If it were not,
þonne hio pære.	Then would it be
forðruȝoð to ðurte.	Dried to dust,
and toðriſen riðþan.	And afterwards driven
riðe mið riðe.	Wide by <i>the</i> wind;
ſpa nu peorþað oft.	210 As now often are
axe ġionð eorþan.	Ashes over the earth
eall toblapen.	All blown.
Ne meahte on þære eorþan.	Nor could on the earth
apuhȝ libban.	Aught live,
ne puhte þon ma.	215 Nor anything the more
pætpeſ bpučan.	Enjoy <i>the</i> water,
onearðian.	Or dwell
ænize cſærte.	By any means,
for cele anum.	Through cold alone:
giſ þu cýning enġla.	220 If thou, King of angels,
rið fýne hpæt-hpuȝu.	With fire in some measure,
foldan ġ laȝu-ſpeam.	Earth and seas
ne menȝðeſ toȝæðeſ.	Didst not mingle;
and ġemetȝodeſt.	And temper
cele ġ hæto.	225 Cold and heat
cſærte þine.	By thy skill,
þæt þ̅ fýr ne mæg.	So that the fire may not
foldan ġ meſe-ſtpeam.	<i>The</i> earth and seas
blate forþæſnan.	Widely burn up,
þeah hiȝ rið ba tpa ſie.	230 Though it with both be
ſærte ġeſeȝeð.	Fast joined;
ſæðeſ ealð ġepeoſc.	<i>The</i> ancient work of <i>the</i> Father.
ne þincð me þ̅ punduſ.	Nor seems to me that wonder

puhte þe læsse.	Anything the less,
þæt þiow eorðe mæg.	235 That this earth,
and eƷor-Ʒtneam.	And seas,
Ʒpa cealb Ʒercean.	Such cold creatures,
cranæta nane.	Can by no means,
ealles aþƷearcan.	Wholly extinguish
þæt Ʒ him on innan Ʒtacað.	That which in them remains
Ʒýner ƷereƷeð.	240 Of fire, joined
mið Ʒnean cranæte.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power.
þæt iƷ agen cranæte.	Such is the peculiar power
eƷor-Ʒtneamer.	Of <i>the</i> seas,
Ʒætnes Ʒ eorþan.	245 Of water and earth,
and on polcnum eac.	And also in the clouds,
and efne Ʒpa Ʒame.	And even the same
uppe ofen noðene.	Up above the sky.
Ðonne iƷ þæs Ʒýner.	Then is the fire's
Ʒnum-Ʒtol on Ʒiht.	250 Proper station
eanð ofen eallum.	<i>And</i> dwelling over all
oðrum Ʒerceanum.	Other creatures
Ʒerepenlicum.	Visible,
Ʒeond þýne Ʒiðan Ʒrund.	Through this wide earth ;
þeah hit Ʒið ealle <sup>1</sup> Ʒie.	255 Though it with all
eft ƷemenƷeð.	Worldly creatures
Ʒeornulb-Ʒerceanæta.	Is still mixed :
þeah Ʒalðan ne mot.	Yet it cannot prevail,
þæt hit ænige.	That it any
eallunga Ʒorðo.	260 Altogether should destroy

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<sup>1</sup> MS. ealla.

buton þær leafe.	Without his leave,
þe uꝛ þiꝛ liꝝ tīode.	Who to us this life decreed :
þæt iꝛ ȝe eca.	That is the Eternal,
and ȝe ælmihtiga.	And the Almighty.
Eorðe iꝛ heꝛiȝne.	265 Earth is heavier
oðrum ȝeꝛceaꝝtum.	Than other creatures,
þiꝛne ȝehꝛuen.	More closely compressed ;
foꝛþæm hiō þnaȝe ȝtoð.	Because it long has stood
ealra ȝeꝛceaꝝta.	Of all creatures
unden niþemæꝛt.	270 <i>The</i> nethermost,
buton þæm ȝodeȝe.	Except the sky,
þe þaꝛ ȝuman ȝeꝛceaꝝt.	Which this wide creation
æȝhꝛýlce dæȝe.	Every day,
utan ýmhꝛýȝeð.	Moves round,
and þeah þære eorþan.	275 And yet the earth
æꝛne ne oðȝineð.	Never touches ;
ne hiȝe on nanne ne mot.	Nor can to it
neap þonne on oðȝe.	In any place approach
ȝtope ȝeȝtæppan.	Nearer than in another.
ȝȝiꝛceð ýmbutan.	280 It holds its course around,
uꝛane ȝ neoþane.	Above and beneath,
eȝen neah ȝehꝛæþeȝ.	Equally near everywhere.
æȝhꝛýlce ȝeꝛceaꝝt.	Every creature,
þe ȝe ýmb ȝȝnecað.	That we are speaking about,
hæꝛð hiȝ aȝenne.	285 Has its own
eaꝛð on ȝundȝan.	Station apart,
bið þeah wið þæm oðrum.	<i>And</i> yet is with the others
eac ȝemenged.	Also mixed.
Ne mæȝ hiȝa æniȝ.	Nor can any of them

butan oðrum bion.  
 þeah hi unŕeotole.  
 romod eapðien.  
 ŕpa nu eorðe 7 pæter.  
 eapfoð tæcne.  
 unŕŕpa gehpæm.  
 puniað on fýpe.  
 þeah hi ŕint an.  
 ŕpeotole þæm pŕum.  
 Iŕ ꝥ fýp ŕpa ŕame.  
 fæŕt on þæm pætre.  
 and on ŕtanum eac.  
 ŕtille geheded.  
 eapfoð hape iŕ.  
 hpæþne þæp haŕað.  
 fæðep engla.  
 fýp gebunden.  
 efne to þon fæŕte.  
 þæt hit fŕolan ne mæg.  
 eft æt hiŕ eðle.  
 þæp ꝥ oþep fýp.  
 up oŕep eall þiŕ.  
 eapð fæŕt punað.  
 ŕona hit foplaeteð.  
 þaŕ lænan geŕceapŕ.  
 mid cele oŕepcumen.  
 gŕ hit on cýððe gepit.  
 and þeah puhta gehpŕlc.  
 pŕlnað þiden-peapð.

290 Without *the* others exist,  
 Though they indistinctly  
 Remain together;  
 As now earth and water  
 Dwell in fire,  
 295 Difficult to be shewn,  
 To any of the unwise;  
 Though they are  
 Clear to the learned.  
 In like manner is fire  
 300 Fast in the water,  
 And in stones also  
 Fixed hidden;  
 It is difficult to be seen.  
 There however has  
 305 *The* Father of angels  
 Bound *the* fire  
 Even so fast,  
 That it cannot join itself  
 Again to its own region,  
 310 Where that other fire  
 Up over all this  
 Earth fast dwells.  
 Soon it would leave  
 This frail creation,  
 315 Overcome with cold,  
 If it to *its* country did depart;  
 And yet everything  
 Tends thitherward,

þær hīr mægðe bið.	Where its kindred are
mæȝt ætġæðne.	320 Most together.
Ðu ġeȝtaþoladeȝt.	Thou hast established,
þurh þa <sup>m</sup> ȝtƿongān meahȝ.	Through thy strong might,
ƿeƿoda ƿulðoƿ cýning.	Glorious King of Hosts!
ƿundorlice.	Wonderfully,
eorþan ȝƿa ƿæȝte.	325 The earth so fast,
þæt hīo on ænige.	That it on any
healfe ne heldeð.	Side halts not,
ne mæg hīo hīðeƿ ne þīðeƿ.	Nor can it hither or thither
ƿiȝan þe ƿƿiþoƿ.	Fall more
þe hīo ȝýmle dýðe.	330 Than it always did.
Ðƿæt hī þeah eorðliceȝ.	Although nothing
auht ne haldeð.	Earthly holds it,
īȝ þeah eƿn eðe.	Yet is it equally easy
up and oƿ ðune.	To this earth,
to ƿeallanne.	335 To fall
ƿoldan þiȝȝe.	Up and down;
þæm anlicort.	Most like to which <i>is this</i> ,
þe on æȝe bið.	That in an egg
ȝioleca on midðan.	The yolk is in the middle,
ȝlīdeð hƿæþne.	340 However rolls
æȝ ýmbutan.	The egg about.
ȝƿa ȝtent eall ƿeoƿulð.	So stands all the world
ȝtīlle on tīlle.	Immoveable in its station,
ȝtƿeamar ýmbutan.	Above the streams,
laȝu-ƿloda ȝelac.	345 The assembly of waters.

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<sup>m</sup> þa is used in several places for þin.

lyfte ⁊ tungla.	<i>The</i> air and stars,
and ſio ſcīpe ſcell.	And the pure shell,
ſcīpeð ſymbutan.	Revolve about <i>it</i> ,
doƿona gehwīlce.	Every day,
ðyde lange ſpa.	350 As <i>they</i> long have done.
hwæt þu þīoda Lōd.	Thou God of nations,
þwīeƿalde on uſ.	In us hast set
ſaple ƿerettert.	A threefold soul,
and hī ſiðþan eac.	And also afterwards
ſcýneret and tihteret.	355 Movest and excitest it,
þurh þa ſcnonƿan meaht.	By thy strong power;
þæt hīe þý læſſe.	That of it less
on þæm lýtlan ne bið.	There should not be
anum ſīngre.	In the little finger alone,
þe hīe on eallum bið.	360 Than there is of it
þæm lichoman.	In all the body.
forþæm ic lýtle ær.	Therefore a little before,
ſƿeotole ſæde.	I clearly said,
þæt ſio ſapl ƿære.	That the soul is
þwīeƿald ƿercean.	365 A threefold creation,
þegna gehwīlce.	Of every man;
forþæm uðwitan.	Because philosophers
ealle ſeggað.	All say,
þæt te an ƿecýnð.	That one nature
ælcne ſaule.	370 Of every soul
ýſſung ƿære. <sup>n</sup>	Should be anger,
oþer wīlung.	Another will;

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<sup>n</sup> MS. ýſſungere.

is ƿio þriððe gecyðð.	The third nature is
þæm tƿæm betere.	Better than these two,
ƿio ƿerƿceadƿirner.	375 <i>Namely</i> , reason.
Nis þ ƿcandlic cƿæƿt.	This is not a mean faculty,
ƿorþæm hit nænig haƿað.	For it no beast possesses,
neat buton monnum.	But men <i>alone</i> .
hæƿð þa oþra tƿa.	The other two
unƿim ƿuhta.	380 Innumerable things possess.
hæƿð þa ƿilnunga.	Well nigh every beast
ƿel hƿilc neten.	Has will,
and þa ýrunga.	And anger
eac ƿƿa ƿelfe.	Also of itself.
ƿorþý men habbað.	385 Therefore men have
geonð midðan gearð.	Throughout <i>the</i> middle earth,
eonð-ƿerƿcearƿta.	Earthly creatures
ealle° oƿerþungen.	All surpassed;
ƿorþæm þe hi habbað.	Because they have
þæƿ þe hi nabbað.	390 That which these have not,
þone ænne cƿæƿt.	The single faculty
þe ƿe ær nemdon.	Which we before named.
ðio ƿerƿceadƿirner.	The reason ought
ƿceal on gehƿelcum.	In every one
þære ƿilnunga.	395 The will
ƿalðan ƿemle.	Always to govern,
and ýrunga.	And anger
eac ƿƿa ƿelfe.	Also of itself.
hio ƿceal mid ƿeþeahƿe.	She shall with counsel,



þegner mode.	400 <i>And</i> with understanding,
mið andgite.	<i>The</i> mind of every man
ealler þaldan.	Govern.
hio iſ ƿ mæſte mægen.	She is the greatest power
monner ſaule.	Of man's soul,
and ſe ſeleſta.	405 <i>And</i> the best
ſundor cſæſta.	Peculiar faculty.
hƿæt þu þa ſaule.	Thou the soul,
ſigora þalbend.	Triumphant Ruler,
þeoda þnȳm-cȳning.	Glorious King of nations,
þuſ geſceope.	410 <i>Thus</i> didst create,
þæt hio hƿearƿode.	That it should turn
on hīne ſelfne.	On itself,
hīne utan ȳmb.	<i>And</i> about itself,
ſƿa ſƿa eal deð.	As does all
ſune ſƿiſte ƿodop.	415 <i>The</i> sky in its swift course :
ſecene ȳmbſcniþeð.	<i>It</i> swiftly revolves
ðogora gehƿilce.	Every day,
Dnihtneſ meahtum.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power
þiſne miððan gearð.	Around this middle earth:
ðƿa deð monneſ ſaul.	420 <i>So</i> doth man's soul,
hƿeole gelicoſt.	Most like a wheel,
hƿærfeð ȳmbe hȳ ſelfe.	Turn about herself,
oſt ſmeaȳende.	Oft inquiring
ȳmb þaſ eorðlican.	About these earthly
Dnihtneſ geſceafsta.	425 <i>Creatures</i> of <i>the</i> Lord,
ðaȳum ȳ nihtum.	By day and night.
hƿilum hī ſelfe.	Sometimes herself
ſecende ſmeað.	Seeking <i>she</i> inquires.

hpilum eƿt ƿmeað.	Sometimes again <i>she</i> inquires
ymb þone ecan Ġoð.	430 About the eternal God,
ƿceppend hƿe.	Her Maker ;
ƿcƿiþende ƿærð.	<i>She</i> goes revolving
hƿeole ġelicoƿt.	Most like a wheel,
hƿærƿð ymb hƿ ƿelƿe.	Turns about herself.
þonne hƿo ymb hƿe ƿcƿppend.	When she about her Maker
mið ġeƿceað ƿmeað.	Rationally inquires,
hƿo bið upahæfen.	She is exalted
oƿer hƿ ƿelƿe.	Above herself ;
ac hƿo bið eallunga.	But she is altogether
an hƿe ƿelƿe.	440 In herself
þonne hƿo ymb hƿ ƿelƿe.	When she about herself
ƿecende ƿmeað.	Seeking inquires.
hƿo bið ƿƿiðe ƿioƿ.	She is very far
hƿe ƿelƿe beneoþan.	Beneath herself,
þonne hƿo þær lænan.	445 When she loves and admires
luƿað ġ ƿunðnað.	These transitory
eorðlicu þing.	Earthly things,
oƿer ecne ƿað.	Above eternal knowledge.
Ðƿæt þu ece Ġoð.	Thou eternal God,
eaƿð ƿoƿgeaƿe.	450 A dwelling givest
ƿaulum on heoƿonum.	To souls in heaven ;
ƿeleƿt ƿeoƿðlica.	Thou wilt bestow honourable
ġinƿærta ġifa.	<i>And</i> most ample gifts,
Ġoð ælmihtig.	O God Almighty !
be ġe eaƿnunga.	455 According to the deserts
anƿa ġehƿelcƿe.	Of every one.
ealle hƿ ƿcƿnað.	They all shall shine

þurh þa ȝcȝpan neaht.	Through the clear night
hadþe on heoƿenum.	Serene in <i>the</i> heavens ;
na hƿæþne þeah.	460 Yet nevertheless not
ealle eƿenbeoþhte.	All equally bright.
Ðƿæt ƿe oƿt ȝeȝioð.	Thus we often see
hadnum nihtum.	In clear nights,
þæt te heoƿon-ȝteoƿnan.	That the stars of heaven
ealle eƿenbeoþhte.	465 All equally bright,
æƿne ne ȝcȝnað. <sup>ƿ</sup>	Ever do not shine.
Ðƿæt þu ece Ġoð.	Thou, eternal God,
eac ȝemenȝeȝt.	Also mixest
þa heoƿoncundan.	The heavenly
hiþeȝ ƿið eoƿþan.	470 Here with <i>the</i> earth ;
ȝaula ƿið lice.	Souls with bodies
ȝiðþan ƿuniað.	Afterwards remain ;—
þiȝ eoƿðlice.	This earthly
and þ̅ ece ȝamod.	And the heavenly together,—
ȝaul in ƿlæȝce.	475 <i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> flesh.
Ðƿæt hi ȝimle to þe.	But they always to thee
hiona <sup>q</sup> ȝundiað.	Hence tend,
ƿoþþæm hi hiðeȝ oƿ þe.	Because they hither from thee
æȝon comon.	Before came ;
ȝculon eȝt to þe.	480 They shall again <i>come</i> to thee.
ȝceal ȝe lichama.	The body shall
laȝt ƿeaƿðigan.	At length dwell

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<sup>ƿ</sup> The same reasoning is here used as that which St. Paul beautifully employed on a different subject. See 1 Cor. xv. 41.

<sup>q</sup> MS. hi on.

eft on eorþan.	Again in <i>the</i> earth,
forþæm he ær of hire.	Because it before therefrom
peox on peorulde.	485 Grew in the world.
punedon æt romne.	They dwelled together
epen ſpa lange.	Even as long
ſpa him lȳfed pær.	As to them was permitted
from þæm ælmihtigan.	By the Almighty,
þe hi æroþ ȝio.	490 Who them before
ȝeromnade.	United together.
þæt iſ roð cȳning.	That is the true King,
re þar folðan ȝerſceop.	Who this earth created,
and hi ȝerfȳlde þa.	And it filled
ſpīde miſlicum.	495 With very various
mine ȝerſpæge.	Kinds of cattle,
neata cȳnnum.	In my opinion,
neſȝend ureþ.	Our Redeemer.
he hi ſiðþan aſioþ.	He afterwards sowed it
ſæda moneȝum.	500 With many seeds
puða ȝ pȳpta.	Of trees and herbs,
peorulde ſceatum.	In <i>the</i> worldly regions.
forȝif nu ece God.	Grant now, eternal God,
urum modum.	To our minds,
þæt hi moten to þe.	505 That they may to thee,
metoð alpuhta.	O Creator of all things,
þurh þar earfoþu.	Through these difficulties
up aſtigan.	Ascend :
and of þiſum bȳȝeȝum.	And from these occupations,
bilepiſt fæder.	510 Merciful Father,
þeoda palðenð.	Ruler of nations,

to þe cuman.	To thee come ;
and þonne mið openum.	And then may,
eagum moten.	With <i>the</i> open eyes
moder upeſ.	515 Of our mind,
þurh þinna mæġna ſped.	Through <i>the</i> efficacy of thy power,
æpelm ġeſion.	Behold <i>the</i> fountain
eallra ġooda.	Of all goods ;
þæt þu eapt ſelſa.	That thou thyself art,
ſiġe Drihten ġoð.	520 O Lord God of victory !
ġe þa eagan hal.	Make sound the eyes
upeſ moder.	Of our mind,
þæt we hi on þe ſelfum.	That we on thyself
ſiðþan moten.	Afterwards may
afæſtnian. <sup>1</sup>	525 Fix them,
ſæðer engla.	O Father of angels !
toðriſ þone þiccan miſt.	Dispel the thick mist,
þe þnæġe nu.	Which now long while
ſið þa eagan ſoþan.	Before the eyes
uſſer moder.	530 Of our mind
hangode hpyle.	Has hung,
heſiġ 7 þyſtne.	Heavy and dark.
Onliht nu þa eagan.	Enlighten now the eyes
uſſer moder.	Of our mind
mið þinum leohte.	535 With thy light,
liſer paðend.	Ruler of life ;
ſoþþæm þu eapt ſið biſhtu.	For thou art the brightness,
bilepiſt ſæðer.	O merciful Father,

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<sup>1</sup> MS. æfæſtnian.

roþer leohter.	Of <i>the</i> true light :
and þu ſelſa eart.	540 And thou thyſelf art
ſio fæſte næſt.	The firm reſt,
fæðer ælmihtig.	O Father Almighty !
eallra ſoðfæſtna.	Of all the faithful.
hwæt þu ſoſte gedert.	Indeed thou cauſeſt,
hwæt hi þe ſelſne.	545 That they thyſelf
geſion moten.	May ſee.
Ðu eart eallra þinga.	Thou art of all things,
þeoda paðend.	O Ruler of nations !
fruma 7 ende.	<i>The</i> beginning and end.
hwæt þu fæðer engla.	550 Thou, Father of angels,
eall þing biſeſt.	All things beaſeſt
eþelice.	Eaſily,—
buton geſpince.	Without labour.
Ðu eart ſelſa þeƷ.	Thou art thyſelf <i>the</i> way,
and latteop eac.	555 And alſo <i>the</i> guide,
liƷgendra gehwær.	Of every one of <i>the</i> living ;
and ſio plitige ſtop.	And the fair place,
þe ſe þeƷ to liƷð.	That the way leads to.
þe ealle to.	To thee all
á fundiað.*	560 Men of earth,
men of moldan.	In the great creation
on þa mæran geſceapt.	Always tend !

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\* MS. afundiaþ, as one word.

METRE XXI.<sup>1</sup>

þel la monna bearn.  
 zeond middan gearð.  
 fmona æghwlc.  
 fundie to þæm.  
 ecum gode.  
 þe pe ýmb fppecað.  
 and to þæm gezælþum.  
 þe pe recgað ýmb.  
 Se þe þonne nu rie.  
 neapfe gehefted.  
 mid þýrref mæran.  
 middan gearðer.  
 unnýtte lufe.  
 rece him eft hræðe.  
 fulne fmodom.  
 þæt he forð cume.  
 to þæm gezælþum.  
 faula næder.  
 forþæm þ 1f fto ana<sup>u</sup> neft.  
 eallra gefpinca.

WELL, O children of men,  
 Throughout *the* middle earth!  
 Let every one of *the* free  
 Aspire to the  
 5 Eternal good,  
 Which we are speaking about;  
 And to the felicities,  
 That we are telling of.  
 Let him who is now  
 10 Straitly bound  
 With *the* vain love  
 Of this great  
 Middle earth,  
 Also quickly seek for himself  
 15 Full freedom,  
 That he may arrive  
 At the felicities,  
 For *the* good of souls.  
 For that is the only rest  
 20 Of all labours,

<sup>1</sup> Boet. Lib. iii. Met. x. Huc omnes pariter venite capti, &c.

<sup>u</sup> MS. an.

hȳhtlicu hȳð.	<i>The</i> desirable haven
heaum ceolum.	To <i>the</i> lofty ships
moder urȳer.	Of our mind ;
mepe ȳmȳlta ȳic.	A great tranquil station ;
þæt iȳ ȳio ana <sup>w</sup> hȳð.	25 That is the only haven
þe æȳne bið.	Which ever is,
æȳter þam ȳþum.	After the waves
uȳa ȳerȳinca.	Of our labours,
ȳȳta ȳehpelcne.	<i>And</i> every storm,
ealniȳ ȳmȳlce.	30 Always calm.
þæt iȳ ȳio ȳȳið-ȳtop.	That is the refuge,
and ȳio ȳȳoȳoȳ ana. <sup>x</sup>	And the only comfort
eallȳa ȳȳminȳa.	Of all <i>the</i> wretched,
æȳter þiȳȳum.	After these
ȳeoȳulð-ȳerȳincum.	35 Worldly labours.
þæt iȳ ȳȳȳȳum ȳtop.	That is a pleasant place,
æȳter þiȳȳum ȳȳȳȳum.	After these miseries,
to aȳanne.	To possess.
Ac ic ȳeoȳne ȳat.	But I well know,
þæt te ȳȳlðen maðm.	40 That neither golden vessels,
ȳȳloȳȳen ȳinc.	<i>Nor</i> heaps of silver,
ȳtan-ȳeaȳo ȳimma nan.	<i>Nor</i> precious stones,
miððengeaȳdeȳ ȳela.	<i>Nor the</i> wealth of the middle earth,
moder eaȳan.	<i>The</i> eyes of <i>the</i> mind
æȳne ne onȳhtað.	45 Ever enlighten,
auht ne ȳebetað.	<i>Nor</i> aught improve
hiȳoȳa ȳceaȳȳneȳȳe.	Their sharpness,



to þære ſceapunga.

ſoðra geſælpa.

ac hi ſwiþor zet.

monna gehfelcer.

moder eagan.

ablendað on breortum.

þonne hi hi beophtran gedon. Than make them clearer.

forþæm æghwile þing.

þe on þis andſeardan.

liſe licað.

lænu ſindon.

eorðlicu þing.

ā fleondu.

ac þiſ iſ wundorlic.

plite and beophtræ.

þe puhta gehwær.

plite geberhteð.

and æfter þæm.

eallum paldeð.

Nele ſe palbend.

þæt forþeortan ſcýlen.

ſaula uſſe.

ac he hi ſelſa pile.

leoman onlihtan.

liſer palbend.

Liſ þonne hæleþa hwile.

hlutrum eazum.

moder ſiner mæg.

æfre oſſon.

To the contemplation

Of true felicities.

50 But they rather,

*The* mind's eyes

Of every man,

Make blind in *their* breasts,

Than make them clearer.

55 For everything

That in this present

Life delights,

Are poor

Earthly things,

60 Ever fleeting.

But wonderful is that

Splendour and brightness,

Which every one of things

With splendour enlightens,

65 And afterwards,

Entirely rules.

The Ruler wills not

That our souls

Shall perish ;

70 But he himself will them

With a ray illumine,

The Ruler of life !

If then any man,

With *the* clear eyes

75 Of his mind, may

Ever behold

hioponeꝝ leohtes.	<i>The</i> clear brightness
hlutne beohto.	Of heaven's light,
þonne wile he secgan.	Then will he say,
þæt þære sunnan rie.	80 That <i>the</i> brightness of the sun
beohtnes þioſtro.	Is darkness,
beorna gehwylcum.	To every man,
to metanne.	Compared with
wið þæt micle leoht.	That great light
Godes ælmihtiges.	85 Of God Almighty,
þæt is gæsta gehwæm.	That is to every soul,
ece butan ende.	Eternal without end,
eadeƿum ƿaulum.	To blessed souls!

## METRE XXII.'

Se þe æfter ƿihte.	WHOSOEVER after truth
mið geƿece.	With skill,
ƿille inƿeardlice.	Will inwardly
æfter ƿƿiſian.	Inquire,
ƿƿa deoplice.	5 So profoundly,
þæt hit todrifan ne mæg.	That no man may
monna ænig.	Dissipate it;
ne amernan huƿu.	Nor any earthly thing
ænig eorðlic þincg.	At all corrupt it;

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γ Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xi. Quisquis profundâ mente vestigat verum, &c.

he æperƿ ƿceal.  
 ƿecan on him ƿelfum.  
 þæt he ƿume hƿile.  
 ýmbutan hine.  
 æƿor ƿohte.  
 ƿece þæt ƿiðþan.  
 on hiƿ ƿeƿan innan.  
 and ƿoplæte\* an.  
 ƿƿa he oƿtoƿt mæge.  
 ælcne\* ýmbhogan.  
 þý him unnet ƿie.  
 and geƿamniƿe.  
 ƿƿa he ƿƿiþoƿt mæge.  
 ealle to þæm anum.  
 hiƿ inƿeþonc.  
 gerecege hiƿ moð.  
 þæt hit mæg ƿindan.  
 eall on him innan.  
 þæt hit oƿtoƿt nu.  
 ýmbutan hit.  
 ealneƿ ƿeceð.  
 goða æghƿýlc.  
 he onƿit ƿiðþan.  
 ýƿel ƿ unnet.  
 eal þ he hæƿðe.  
 on hiƿ incoƿan.

10 He shall first  
 Seek in himself,  
 That which he some while  
 Before sought,  
 About him ;  
 15 *He* must afterwards seek that  
 Within his mind ;  
 And forsake,  
 As he soonest may,  
 Every anxiety,  
 20 Which to him is profitless ;  
 And resort,  
 As he best may,  
 Entirely to this alone,  
*Namely*, his mind.  
 25 *He* must say to his mind,  
 That it may find,  
 Entirely in itself,  
 That which it oftenest now,  
 Around it  
 30 Everywhere seeks,—  
 Every one of goods.  
 He will then find  
 Evil and useless,  
 All that he had  
 35 In his breast,

\* ƿoplæte an is probably put for anƿoplæte.

\* MS. ælcne.

æron lange.	Long before ;
efne ꝥpa ꝥpeotole.	Even as clearly,
ꝥpa he on þa ꝥunnan mæg.	As he on the sun may
eagum andþeardum.	With present eyes
onlocian.	40 Look.
and hi eac onȝit.	And he also will perceive
hiȝ inȝeþonc.	His understanding
leohtre ȝ beþhtre.	Lighter and more bright,
þonne ꝥe leoma ꝥe.	Than is the beam
ꝥunnan on ꝥumepa.	45 Of <i>the</i> sun in summer,
þonne ꝥpegles ȝim.	When <i>the</i> gem of the sky,
hadon heofon-tunȝol.	<i>The</i> serene heaven star,
hlutroȝt ꝥcineð.	Clearest shines.
ꝥonþæm þæȝ lichoman.	For the sins and heaviness,
leahtpaȝ ȝ heȝignep.	50 And the vices
and þa unþeapaȝ.	Of the body,
eallunȝa ne maȝon.	Altogether may not
oȝ mode ation.	From <i>the</i> mind draw
monna ænegum.	In any man,
nihtȝiȝneȝȝe.	55 Virtue.
Ðeah nu ꝥinca hpæm.	Though now in every man,
þæȝ lichoman.	<i>The</i> sins and heaviness,
leahtpaȝ ȝ heȝignep.	And <i>the</i> vices
and unþeapaȝ.	Of the body,
oȝt biȝigen.	60 Often trouble
monna mod-ȝepan.	<i>The</i> mind of men,
mæȝt and ꝥꝥiþoȝt.	And most especially
mið þæpe ȝplan.	With the evil

oƿorȝiotołneȝre. <sup>b</sup>	Forgetfulness ;
mīð ȝedpol-mīȝte.	65 And with <i>the</i> mist of error
ðneorīȝne ȝeƿan.	Before the mind, alarms
ƿorȝið mod ƿoƿan.	The dreary intellect
monna ȝehpelceȝ.	Of every man,
þæt hit ƿpa beorhte ne mot.	That it so bright cannot
blican and <sup>c</sup> ƿcīnan.	70 Glitter and shine,
ƿpa hit polde ȝīȝ.	As it would if
hit ȝepealð ahte.	It power possessed.
þeah bið ƿum coƿn.	Yet is some grain
ȝædeȝ ȝehealden.	Of <i>the</i> seed of truth
ȝīmle on þæne ƿaule.	75 Always retained
ƿoðƿæȝtneȝre.	In the soul,
þenden ȝadeȝtanȝ ƿunað.	While united dwells
ȝaȝt on lice.	<i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> body.
þæȝ ȝædeȝ coƿn.	<i>The</i> grain of this seed
bið ȝīmle aƿeaht.	80 Is always excited
mīð aȝcunȝa.	By inquiry,
eac ƿiðþan.	And moreover,
mīð ȝooðne laȝe.	By good instruction,
ȝīȝ hit ȝƿoƿan ƿceal.	If it shall grow.
ðu mæȝ ænīȝ man.	85 How can any man
andȝƿaȝe ƿīndan.	Find <i>an</i> answer
þīnȝa ænīȝeȝ.	To anything,
þeȝen <sup>d</sup> mīð ȝeȝceade.	At least with reason,

<sup>b</sup> MS. oƿorȝiotołneȝre.<sup>c</sup> MS. an.<sup>d</sup> þeȝen is obscure ; and although I am not satisfied with the translation of this line, I cannot think of a better.

þeah hine ƿınca hƿīlc.  
 ƿihtƿīrlīce.

æfter ƿrigne.  
 gif he aƿuht naƿað.  
 on hīf mod-ſeƿan.  
 mýcleſ ne lýtleſ.

ƿihtƿīrneſſeſ.  
 ne ſeƿaðſcīpeſ.  
 nīf þeah ænig man.  
 þæt te ealleſ ƿpa.  
 þæſ ſeƿaðſcīpeſ.  
 ƿpa beſeaƿoð ſe.

þæt he andſƿape.  
 ænige ne cunne.  
 ƿīndan on ſeƿhðe.  
 gif he ƿruguſnen bīð.

ſoſþæm hit īf ƿiht ƿpell. 105  
 þæt uſ ſeahte gīo.  
 ealð uðƿīta.

uſe Platon.  
 he cƿæð þ̅ te æghƿīlc.  
 ungemýndig.

ƿihtƿīrneſſe.  
 hine hƿæðe ſceolðe.  
 eft ſeƿendan.  
 into ſinum.

moder gemýnde.  
 he mæg ſiðþan.  
 on hīf ƿun-coſan.

Though after it

90 Any man should

Wisely inquire,

If he has not

Aught in his mind,

Much or little

95 Of wisdom,

Or prudence?

But there is no man

That altogether is

Of prudence

100 So bereaved,

That he any answer

Cannot find

In *his* mind,

If he be questioned.

105 Therefore it is a true saying,

Which formerly our Plato,

*The* ancient philosopher

Said to us;

He said that every one

110 Unmindful

Of wisdom,

Should immediately

Turn himself

To his own

115 Memory :

He may then,

In his breast

rihtwyrnefe.	Wisdom
findan on ferhte.	Find in <i>his</i> mind,
færte gehýðde.	Closely concealed
mið gedwæfnefe.	By the trouble
doƿona gehwylce.	Of his mind,
moder fínef.	Every day,
mæft 7 fwiþort.	Most especially ;
and mið hefínefe.	<sup>125</sup> And by <i>the</i> heaviness
hif lichoman.	Of his body ;
and mið þæm biƿum.	And by the cares,
þe on breortum fcyneð.	Which in <i>the</i> breast agitate
mon on mode.	Men's minds
mæla gehwylce.	<sup>130</sup> Every moment.

## METRE XXIII.\*

ƿie þ la on eorþan.	Lo ! now on earth is he
ælceƿ þínges.	In every thing
geƿæliz mon.	A happy man,
ƿif he geƿion mæge.	If he may see
þone hlutfeftan.	<sup>5</sup> The clearest
heoƿon-toƿhtan fteam.	Heaven shining stream,
æþelne æpelm.	<i>The</i> noble fountain
ælceƿ gooder.	Of all good !

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\* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xii. Felix qui potuit boni, &c.

and of him ſelfum.	And of himſelf
þone ſƿearƿan miſt.	10 The ſwarthy miſt,
moder þioſtƿo.	<i>The</i> darkness of <i>the</i> mind
mæg aƿeoƿpan.	Can diſpel !
þe ſculon þeah gita.	We will as yet,
mið Godeſ fýlſte.	With God's help,
ealdum 7 leaſum.	15 With old and fabulous
þinne ingeþonc.	Stories inſtruct
betan biſpellum.	Thy mind ;
þæt þu þe bet mæge.	That thou the better mayſt
aƿedian to ƿoðorum.	Discover to <i>the</i> ſkies
nihte ſtize.	20 The right path ;
on þone ecan eard.	To the eternal region
urra ſaula.	Of our ſouls.

## METRE XXIV.†

Ic hæbbe fildƿu.	I HAVE wings
fugle fƿiſtƿan.	Swifter than a bird,
mið þæm ic fleogan mæg.	With which I can fly
feor fƿam eoƿþan.	Far from earth,
oƿeƿ heane hƿoſ.	5 Over the lofty roof
heoƿoneſ þiſſeſ.	Of this heaven.
ac þæƿ ic nu moſte.	But I muſt now,

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† Boet. Lib. IV. Met. I. Sunt etenim pennæ volucres mihi, &c.



mod ġeƿeðƿan.	O mind, give wings to
þinne ƿeƿð-locan.	Thy bosom,
ƿeðƿum minum.	10 With my feathers,
oðþæt þu meahƿe.	That thou mayest
þiƿne miððan ġeapð.	This middle earth,
ælc eopðlic þiſġ.	<i>And</i> every earthly thing,
eallunġa ƿopƿion.	Altogether look down upon.
Meahƿeƿ opƿeƿ ƿoðopum.	15 Thou mayest above the skies
ġeƿeclice.	Extensively
ƿeðeƿum lacan.	With thy wings sport;
ƿeop up opƿeƿ.	Far up above
ƿolcnu ƿiððan.	The clouds wander,
ƿliƿan ƿiðþan upan.	20 <i>And</i> afterwards from above
opƿeƿ ealle.	Look down over all.
Meahƿeƿ eac ƿapan.	Thou mayest also go
opƿeƿ þæm ƿiƿne.	Above the fire,
þe ƿela ġeapa ƿop.	Which many years has gone
lange betƿeox.	25 Long betwixt
lyƿte ġ ƿoðeƿe.	<i>The</i> air and sky;
ƿƿa him æƿ ƿƿiƿmðe.	As to it at <i>the</i> beginning,
ƿæðeƿ ġeƿioðe.	<i>The</i> Father appointed.
ðu meahƿeƿƿ þe ƿiðþan.	Thou mayest afterwards,
mið þæƿe ƿunnaƿ.	30 With the sun,
ƿapan betƿeox.	Go betwixt
opƿum tunġlum.	The other stars.
Meahƿeƿƿ þe ƿull ƿecen.	Thou mayest full quickly,
on þæm ƿoðeƿe upan.	In the sky above,
ƿiðþan ƿeopþan.	35 Afterwards advance;
and þonne ƿamƿenġeƿ.	And then immediately

æt þæm æl-cealban.	To that all cold,
anum r̥teorpan.	Solitary star,
re y̥rmeſt iſ.	Which highest is
eallra tungla.	40 Of all <i>the</i> stars ;
þone ſaturnuſ.	Him Saturn
ſund-buende hatað.	Sailors call
under heoronum.	Under <i>the</i> heavens.
he iſ re cealða.	He is the cold
eall iſg tungel.	45 All icy star,
y̥rmeſt paðnað.	<i>And</i> highest wanders,
oſer eallum uſan.	Above all
oþrum r̥teorpum.	Other stars.
ðiðþan þu þonne.	After thou then
þone upahaſaſt.	50 Hast advanced,
ſonð oſer-ſaſenne.	To pass by him,
þu meaht ſeorſian.	Thou mayest go far.
þonne biſt þu ſiðþan.	Then thou wilt afterwards be
ſona oſer uppan.	Soon above
noðere nýne ſſiſtum.	55 <i>The</i> sky in its swift course.
giſ þu niht ſæpeſt.	If thou rightly goest,
þu <sup>ε</sup> þone hehſtan heoron.	The highest heaven
behindan lætſt.	Thou shalt leave behind.
Ðonne meaht þu ſiðþa.	Then mayest thou afterwards
ſoþer leohteſ.	60 Have thy portion
habban þinne dæl.	Of <i>the</i> true light.
þonan an cýning.	From whence one king
nume niſrað.	Widely reigns,

ofer noderum up.  
 and under swa same.  
 eallra gecrefta.  
 weorolde wealdend.  
 Ðæt is swa cyning.  
 þæt is se se wealdend.  
 giond weorolde.  
 ealra oþra.  
 eorþan cyninga.  
 se mid his bridle.  
 ymbe bæted hæfð.  
 ymbhryrft ealne.  
 eorþan ⁊ heofenes.  
 He his gecwald-leþer.  
 wele getetgað.  
 se stoweð a.  
 þurh þa strowgan meahht. 80  
 þam hrowdweane.  
 heofenes and eorþan.  
 se an dæma is.  
 gertæðrig.  
 unapendendlic.  
 plitig ⁊ mæne.  
 Eif þu hryrft on.  
 wege rihtum.  
 up to þam eorðe.  
 þæt is æfele stow.  
 þeah þu hi nu geta.  
 forgyten hæbbe.

Up above *the* skies ;  
 65 And also under *them*,  
 All worldly  
 Creatures governs.  
 This is *the* wise king,  
 This is he who rules,  
 70 Throughout nations,  
 All other  
 Earthly kings.  
 He with his bridle,  
 Has encompassed  
 75 *The* whole orb  
 Of earth and heaven.  
 He his reins  
 Well regulates,  
 Who ever guides,  
 80 By his strong power,  
 The chariot  
 Of heaven and earth.  
 He is the only judge,  
 Stedfast,  
 85 Unchangeable,  
 Splendid and great.  
 If thou returnest along  
*The* right way,  
 Up to that region,  
 90 It is thy native place,  
 Though thou at present  
 Hast forgotten it.

ƒif þu æfre.	If thou ever
eƒt þær an cýmeƒt.	Again there comest,
þonne ƒilt þu ƒecƒan.	95 Then wilt thou say,
and ƒona cƒeþan.	And soon declare,
þif if eallunga.	"This is altogether
min aƒen cýð.	"My own country,
eaƒd and eþel.	"Residence, and native soil.
ic ƒær æƒ hionan.	100 "I formerly hence
cumen ƒ acenned.	"Came and was born,
þuþ þifƒeƒ cƒæƒtƒan meaht.	"Through the Creator's power.
nýlle ic æƒre hionan.	"Never will I hence
ut ƒitan.	"Depart ;
ac ic ƒýmle heƒ.	105 "But I ever here,
ƒoƒte ƒille.	"Will gladly,
mið ƒædeƒ ƒillan.	"With <i>the</i> Father's will,
ƒæƒte ƒtonðan.	"Firmly stand."
ƒif þe þonne æfre.	If it then ever
eƒt ƒeƒeoƒþeð.	110 Again should happen,
þæt þu ƒilt oððe moƒt.	That thou wilt or must,
ƒeoƒolde þioƒtƒo.	<i>The</i> world's darkness,
eƒt ƒanðian.	Again explore,
þu meaht eaðe ƒeƒion.	Thou mayest easily see
unƒihtƒife.	115 <i>The</i> unrighteous
eoƒþan cýningaƒ.	Earthly kings,
and þa oƒeƒmoðan.	And the other
oþre ƒican.	Arrogant rich,
þe þif ƒeƒiƒe ƒolc.	Who this abject people
ƒýƒt tuciað.	120 Worst torment ;
þæt he ƒýmle bioð.	That they always are

ƿrīðe earne.  
 unmehtige.  
 ælceƿ þingeƿ.  
 emne þa ilcan.  
 þe þiƿ earne folc.  
 ƿume hƿile nu.  
 ƿrīþoƿt onðƿædeð.

Very poor,  
 Impotent  
 In every thing;  
 125 Even the same,  
 That this wretched people,  
 Somewhile now,  
 Most dreads.

METRE XXV.<sup>a</sup>

Geheƿ nu an ƿpell.  
 be þæm oƿeƿmodum.  
 unƿihtƿiƿum.  
 eoƿþan cýningum.  
 þa heƿ nu manegum.  
 and mǿrlícum.  
 ƿædum ƿlite-beoƿhtum.  
 ƿundƿum ƿcínað.  
 on heah-ƿetlum.  
 hƿoƿe geƿenge.  
 ƿolbe gegeƿede.  
 and ƿimcýnnum.  
 utan ýmbe ƿtandne.  
 mid unƿime.

HEAR now a discourse  
 Concerning the proud  
 Unrighteous  
 Kings of the earth;  
 5 Who here now with many  
 And various  
 Splendid garments  
 Wonderfully shine;  
 On thrones,  
 10 With canopies reclining:  
 Clothed with gold,  
 And jewels;  
 Surrounded  
 With an innumerable *crowd*

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<sup>a</sup> Boet. Lib. iv. Met. ii. Quos vides sedere celso, &c.

- þegna ⁊ eorla.  
 þa bioð gehyrte.  
 mid hefe-geatpum.  
 hilde tophlum.  
 rpeordum ⁊ fetelum.  
 rpiðe geglende.  
 and þegnað.  
 þrymme mycle.  
 ælc oþrum.  
 and hi ealle him.  
 þonan mid þy þrymme.  
 þneatiað gehpider.  
 ymb-ryttenda.  
 oþra þeoda.  
 and re hlaforð ne rcrifð.  
 þe þæm hefe paldeð.  
 rneonde ne reonde.  
 reone ne æhtum.  
 ac he reþig-mod.  
 rært on gehpalcne.  
 reðe hundre.  
 puhta gelicort.  
 Brið to upahæfen.  
 inne on mode.  
 for þæm anpalde.  
 þe him anra gehpalc.  
 hir tyn-pina.  
 to fultemað.  
 Luf mon þonne polde.
- 15 Of thanes and earls,  
 Who are adorned  
 With weapons,  
 Illustrious in battle;  
 With swords and belts  
 20 Greatly distinguished;  
 And each one  
 With much magnificence  
 Serves another;  
 And they all *serve* him.  
 25 From thence with their magnificence  
 They everywhere strike terror,  
 Into other  
 Surrounding nations;  
 And the Lord regards not,  
 30 Who rules that crowd,  
 Friend or foe,  
 Life or goods;  
 But he fierce in mind,  
 Rushes on every one,  
 35 Most like of *all* things  
 To a fierce dog.  
 He is too much raised  
 In his mind,  
 Through the power,  
 40 Which for him each one  
 Of his beloved chiefs  
 Supports.  
 If then any one would

him ariᅇðan of.	From him strip off
þær cýne-gepelum.	45 These kingly robes,—
claþa gehpílcnē.	Each of his garments,—
and him þonne oftion.	And from him then take away
þara þegnunga.	That retinue,
and þær anpaldeŕ.	And that power,
þe he heŕ hæfde.	50 Which he here had ;
þonne meaht þu geŕion.	Then mightest thou see
þæt he bið ŕiðe gelic.	That he is very like
ŕumum þara gumena.	Any of those men,
þe him geornort nu.	Who now most anxiously
mið þegnungum.	55 With services
þŕungað ýmbe utan.	Crowd about him.
giŕ hi þýŕa ne bið.	If he is no worse,
ne pene ic hiŕ na betepan.	I think he is no better.
Giŕ him þonne æŕfe.	If then ever to him,
unmendlinga.	60 Unexpectedly,
peaŕ geberede.	It by chance happened,
þæt him ŕuðe oftozen.	That from him were taken
þŕýmmeŕ 7 pæða.	His splendour and clothes,
and þegnunga.	And retinue,
and þær anpaldeŕ.	65 And the power
þe we ýmbe ŕŕnecað.	That we are speaking of ;
giŕ him æniĝ þara.	If from him any of these
ofhenðe þýŕð.	Were taken away,
ic pat ꝥ him þinceð.	I wot that it would seem to him
þæt he þonne ŕie.	70 That he were then
becŕopen on canceŕn.	Crept into prison,
oððe coðlice.	Or surely

nacentan ȝeſæpeð.

Ic ȝeſecean mæg.

þæt of unȝemetete.

ælcere þinge.

ſiȝte ⁊ pæda.

ſin-ȝedſince.

and of ſwet-metann.

ſiþoſt peaxað.

þære ſſænneſſe.

poð-þnaȝ micel.

ſio ſiððe ȝedſæfð.

ſeſan inȝehȝȝð.

monna ȝehſelce.

þonan mæſt cȝmeð.

ȝſla ofeſmeta.

unnetta ſaca.

Ðonne hi ȝebolȝene peoſþað. When they become enraged

him ſȝið on bſeoſtum inne. Within their breasts

beſpunȝen ſeſa on hſeþſe.<sup>1</sup> Their inward mind is scourged

mið þæm ſiþan ſelme. With the violent burning

hat-heoſtneſſe. Of fury ;

and hſeðe ſiðþan. And afterwards,

unſoſtneſſe. 95 Cruel sorrow

eac ȝeſeæpeð. Also binds *them*,

hearde ȝehæfðed. Fast enslaved.

Ðim ſiðþan onȝinð. To them afterwards

Bound with chains.

I can shew,

75 That from excess

Of every thing,

Of food and clothes,

Of wine-drink,

And of sweet meats,

80 Chiefly grows

The great fury

Of lust,

Which much troubles

*The* thoughts of *the* mind

85 Of every man :

Whence chiefly comes

Evil arrogance,

And unprofitable strifes.

When they become enraged

Within their breasts

Their inward mind is scourged

With the violent burning

Of fury ;

And afterwards,

95 Cruel sorrow

Also binds *them*,

Fast enslaved.

To them afterwards

<sup>1</sup> MS. hſeþſe. Lye acknowledges this word ; but as he has no authority for its use besides what he finds here, I am inclined to consider it as an error, and have corrected it accordingly.



sum tohopa.  
 ƿriðe leogan.  
 þær Ʒepinner ƿræce.  
 ƿilnað þ̅ 1ƿne.  
 aner and oþner.  
 him þ̅ eall Ʒehæt.  
 hiƿ neceleƿt.  
 ƿihter ne ƿcƿiƿeð.  
 Ic þe Ʒæde æƿ.  
 on þiƿre Ʒelfan bec.  
 þæt ſumer Ʒoodeƿ.  
 ƿiðna Ʒerſearfa.  
 anlepna ælc.  
 á ƿilnode.  
 ƿon hiƿ aƷenum.  
 ealb-Ʒecýnde.  
 unƿihtƿiƿe.  
 eoþan cýningaƿ.  
 ne maƷon æfne þƿhtion.  
 aƿuht Ʒoodeƿ.  
 ƿon þæm ýƿle.  
 þe ic þe æƿ Ʒæde.  
 Niƿ þ̅ nan ƿunðon.  
 ƿonþæm hi ƿillað hi.  
 þæm unþearum.  
 þe ic þe æƿ nemde.  
 anpa Ʒehpelcum.  
 á undeƿþeodan.  
 Sceal þonne nebe.

Some hope begins  
 100 Greatly to lie.  
 Revenge of battle  
 Anger desires  
 Of one or other.  
 His security promises  
 105 All that to him,  
*But* cares not for right.  
 I told thee before  
 In this same book,  
 That every one  
 110 Of various creatures,  
 Ever desired  
 Some good,  
 Through his own  
 Original nature.  
 115 *But* unrighteous  
 Earthly kings  
 May never accomplish  
 Aught of good,  
 On account of the evil,  
 120 Which I before mentioned to thee.  
 That is no wonder,  
 For they are willing,  
 To the vices,  
 Which I before named to thee,  
 125 To each one,  
 Ever to submit.  
*He* shall then necessarily

nearpe ȝebugan.	Strictly bend
to þara hlaforða.	To the captivity
hærte dome.	130 Of those lords,
þe he hine eallunga.	That he himself entirely
ær underþiოდde.	Before submitted to.
þæt iſ pýrre ȝet.	This is still worse,
þæt he pinnan nýle.	That he will not strive
rið þæm anpalde.	135 Against that power,
ænige ȝtunde.	At any time.
þær he polde á.	If he ever would
pinnan onginnan.	Begin to strive,
and þonne on þæm ȝepinne.	And then in the contest,
þurhpunian forð.	140 Afterwards persist,
þonne nærde he.	Then would he have
nane ȝcýlde.	No guilt;
þeah he oſerpunnen.	Though he should be
peorþan ȝceolde.	Overcome.

## METRE XXVI.\*

Ic þe mæg eaðe.	I CAN easily to thee,
ealðum ȝ leaſum.	From old and fabulous
ȝpellum andneccan.	Stories relate
ȝpnæce ȝelicne.	A tale similar to

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\* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iii. Vela Neritii ducis, &c.

efne þýrre ilcan.  
 þe wít ýmýppnecað.  
 Ðit ȝeſælde ȝio.  
 on ſume tide.  
 þæt Aulixeſ.  
 under-hæfde.  
 þæm Eageſe.<sup>1</sup>  
 cýne-ſicu tpa.  
 Ðe pæſ Ðnacia.<sup>m</sup>  
 þioða alþoſ.  
 and Retie.  
 riçeſ hiſde.  
 Þæſ hiſ fneaðrihtneſ.  
 folc-cuð nama.  
 Agamemnon.  
 re ealleſ peoþ.  
 Eneca riçeſ.  
 Cuð pæſ riðe.  
 þæt on þa tide.  
 Troiana ȝeſin.  
 pearð under polcnum.  
 foſ riȝeſ-hearþ.  
 Eneca drihten.  
 camp-ſted ſecan.

5 Even this same,  
 That we are speaking of.  
 It happened formerly,  
 At a certain time,  
 That Ulysses  
 10 Had under  
 The emperor  
 Two kingdoms.  
 He was of *the* Thracian  
 Provinces chief;  
 15 And of *the* kingdom  
 Of Retia ruler.  
 His supreme Lord's  
 Celebrated name  
 Was Agamemnon;  
 20 Who governed all  
*The* kingdom of *the* Greeks.  
 It was widely known,  
 That at that time  
*The* Trojan war  
 25 Happened under *the* clouds.  
 Forth went *the* leader of war,  
*The* lord of *the* Greeks,  
 To seek *the* place of battle.

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<sup>1</sup> An indefinite title of honour.

<sup>m</sup> Ulysses was King of Ithaca, and had no dominions in Thrace: probably Alfred was led into this error by some bardic history of the murder of Rhesus, and the defeat of the Thracians by Ulysses. See Note 147 in Cardale's edition of the Prose of Boethius.

Aulixeſ mid.	Ulysses with him
an hund ſcipa.	30 A hundred of ships
lædde oſer lagu-ſtream.	Led over the ocean,
ſæt longe þær.	<i>And</i> ſat long there,—
tyn winter full.	Ten winters full.
Ða <sup>n</sup> ſio tid zelomp,	When the time came,
þæt hi ꝥ rice.	35 That they that kingdom
geſæht hæfdon.	Had subdued,
ðioſe gecepte.	Dearly won
ðrihten Egeca.	<i>The</i> lord of <i>the</i> Greeks,
Troia burh.	<i>The</i> city of Troy,
tilum geſiþum.	40 With <i>his</i> brave companions ;
þa þa <sup>o</sup> Aulixeſ.	Then when Ulysses
leafe hæfde.	Had permission,
Ðſacia <sup>p</sup> cýning.	(King of Thracia.)
þæt he þonan moſte.	That he thence might <i>depart</i> ,
he let him behindan.	45 He left behind him,
hýrnde ciolaſ.	Beaked ships,
nigon 7 hund nigontig.	Ninety and nine.
nænige <sup>q</sup> þonan.	From thence none
mepe-hengeſta.	Of <i>the</i> ſea hoſes
ma þonne ænne.	50 More than one,
ſepeþe on fifel <sup>r</sup> ſtream.	Went by the Fifel ſtream,
ſamig-borþon.	With foamy banks ;

<sup>n</sup> MS. Ðe.<sup>o</sup> MS. þu.<sup>p</sup> See a preceding note.<sup>q</sup> MS. nænigne.<sup>r</sup> The real meaning of *fifel* is obſcure. See Note 192, in Cardale's Proſe Boethius.

þriepreþne ceol.  
 þæt bið þæt mæste.  
 Γρεσιςνα ρσινα.  
 þa pearð cealb peðen.  
 ρteapc-ρτορma zelac.  
 ρtuneðe ρio þρune.  
 ýð ρið oþne.  
 ut ρeop aðpaf.  
 on penðel-ρæ.  
 ρizendpna ρcola.  
 up on þæt izlanð.  
 þær Apollineρ.  
 ðohton punode.  
 ðæg-ρimeρ poρa.  
 pær ρe Apollinur.  
 æþeleρ cýnneρ.  
 Iobeρ eapopa.  
 ρe pær ρio cýning.  
 ρe licette.  
 litlum 7 miclum.  
 gumena gehpýlcum.  
 þæt he God\* pære.  
 hehrt 7 halgort.  
 ðpa ρe hlafoð þa.  
 þæt ðýrize folc.  
 on gehpolan læððe.  
 oðþæt him gelyfðe.

A vessel with three rows of oars ;  
 Which is the greatest  
 55 Of Grecian ships.  
 Then was cold weather,  
 A number of stark storms :  
 The dusky wave  
 Beat on another,  
 60 *And* drove out far  
 In *the* Wendel sea,  
*The* band of warriors,  
 Upon the island,  
 Where Apollo's  
 65 Daughter dwelt,  
 A number of days.  
 This Apollo was  
 Of noble race,  
*The* son of Jove,  
 70 Who was formerly king ;  
 He pretended  
 To little and great,  
 To every man,  
 That he was God,  
 75 *The* highest and holiest.  
 So did this lord then,  
 That foolish people  
 Lead into error,  
 Until believed in him

leoda unrim.	80 A multitude of people ;
forþam he pær mid rihte. Because he was rightfully	
rices hipe.	<i>The ruler of that kingdom,</i>
hiora cyne-cýnnes.	<i>And of their kingly race.</i>
Luð is riðe.	It is widely known,
þæt on þa tide.	85 That at that time,
þeoda æghwile hæfdon.	Every nation held
heora hlaford.	Their lord
for þone hehstan God.	For the most high God ;
and weorþodon.	And worshipped <i>him</i> ,
swa swa wuldres cýning.	90 Even as the king of glory ;
gif he to þam rice pær.	If he to that kingdom was
on rihte boren.	Rightly born.
pær þær Iowes fæder.	This Jove's father was
God eac swa he.	A God also as he was.
Saturnus þone.	95 Him Saturn
fund-buende.	The sea dwellers
heton hæleþa bearn.	Call, <i>even</i> the children of men :
hæfdon þa mægþa.	They esteemed these kinsmen,
ælcne æfter oþrum.	One after another,
for ecne God.	100 As the eternal God.
Sceolde eac wean.	<i>Then</i> also should
Apolliner.	Apollo's daughter,
dohtor dior-boren.	Nobly born,
dyrger folces.	Be of the foolish people,
gum-rinca gyden.	105 A Goddess ;
cude galþa fela.	Known through many sorceries
drifan drycnæftas.	To exercise magic arts.
hio gedpolan fylgde.	She error followed

manna ꝥꝥþoꝛt.  
 manegra þioða.  
 Lȳningeꝛ dohton.  
 ꝥio Circe ꝥæꝛ.  
 haten ꝥoꝛ heꝥiꝥum.  
 Ðio ꝥicꝥode.  
 on þæm iꝥlonde.  
 þe Aulixeꝛ.  
 cȳning Ðꝥacia.  
 com ane to.  
 ceole liþan.  
 Luð ꝥæꝛ ꝥona.  
 eallꝥe þæꝛne mænige.  
 þe hiꝥe mið ꝥunode.  
 æþelingeꝛ ꝥið.  
 Ðio mið ungemete.  
 liꝥꝥum luꝥode.  
 lið-monna ꝥnea.  
 and he eac ꝥꝥa ꝥame.  
 ealle mæꝥne.  
 eꝥne ꝥꝥa ꝥꝥiðe.  
 hi on ꝥeꝥan luꝥode.  
 þæt he to hiꝥ eanðe.  
 ænige nȳꝥte.  
 moðeꝛ mȳnlan.  
 oꝥeꝥ mæꝥð giunge.  
 ac he mið þæm ꝥiꝥe.  
 ꝥunode ꝥiðþan.  
 oðþæt him ne meahte.

Most of people,  
 110 Of many nations.  
 The king's daughter  
 Was Circe  
 Called for her oppressions.  
 She reigned  
 115 In the island,  
 Which Ulysses  
 King of Thracia,  
 Happened to sail to  
 With one ship.  
 120 Soon was known  
 To all the multitude  
 That with her dwelt,  
*The* arrival of *the* prince.  
 She with unbounded  
 125 Favour loved  
*The* lord of the sailors;  
 And he in like manner,  
 With all his power,  
 Even as greatly,  
 130 Loved her in his mind;  
 So that he towards his country  
 Knew not any  
 Inclination of mind,  
 Above *the* young maid;  
 135 But he with that wife  
 Dwelt afterwards;  
 Until with him would not

monna ænig.	Any man
þegna <sup>t</sup> ġinra.	Of his thanes
þær mid þeran.	140 There remain;
ac hi for þæm ġmþum.	But they through the misery
earðer lȳrte.	Of desire for their country,
mȳnton forlætan.	Determined to leave
leorne hlaforð.	<i>Their</i> beloved lord.
Ða ongunnon þercan.	145 Then men began
þer-þeoda ġpell.	To work spells;
ġædon ꝥ hio ꝥceolde.	They said that she should,
mid hīre ġcīnlace.	By her sorcery,
beornar forþþeðan.	Lay <i>the</i> men prostrate;
and mid balo-cnærtum.	150 And with wicked arts
ġraþum þeorpan.	Quickly cast,
on pildra lic.	Into <i>the</i> bodies of wild beasts
cȳninges þegnar.	<i>The</i> king's thanes;
cȳrran ġiðþan.	<i>And</i> afterwards fetter,
and mid ꝥacentan eac.	155 And with chains also,
ġæpan mænigne.	Bind many a one.
Ðume hi to pulꝥum ȳurðon.	Some became wolves,
ne meah-ton þonne ȳorð forð-	<i>And</i> could not then utter a
þringan.	word;
ac hio þraȝ-mælum.	But they at intervals
þioton ongunnon.	160 Began to howl.
Ðume ȳæron earforar.	Some were wild boars,
á ġrȳmetedon.	<i>And</i> always grunted,
þonne hi ȳares hpæt.	When they any grief

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<sup>t</sup> MS. þegnra.



ƿioƿian ƿcioldon.  
 Ða þe leon ƿæron.  
 ongunnon laðlice.  
 ƿƿpenza ƿýnan.<sup>a</sup>  
 þonne hi ƿceoldon.  
 clipian ƿor conþre.  
 Cnihtaƿ ƿurdon.  
 ealde ge giunze.  
 ealle ƿorhpærfe.  
 to ƿumum ðiope.  
 ƿpelcum he æroƿ.  
 on hiƿ liƿ-ðagum.  
 gelicoƿt ƿær.  
 butan þam cýninge.  
 þe ƿio cƿen luƿode.  
 Nolde þara oþra.  
 ænig onbitan.  
 menniƿceƿ meter.  
 ac hi ma luƿedon.  
 ðioƿa ðrohtað.  
 ƿƿa hit geðeƿe ne ƿær.  
 Næƿdon hi maƿe.  
 monnum geliceƿ.  
 eoƿð-buendum.  
 þonne ingeþonc.  
 Ðæƿde anƿa gehƿýlc.

Should bemoan.  
 165 Those that were lions  
 Horribly began  
 To roar fiercely,  
 When they should  
 Call for *their* companions.  
 170 *The* men were,  
 Old and young,  
 All transformed  
 To some beast,  
 Such as each before,  
 175 In *the* days of his life,  
 Was most resembling;  
 Except the king,  
 Whom the queen loved.  
 Of the others,  
 180 None would taste  
*The* food of men;  
 But they more loved  
*The* society of beasts,  
 As it was not fit.  
 185 They had no more  
 Of likeness to men,  
 Inhabitants of earth,  
 Than *the* mind.  
 Each one had

<sup>a</sup> MS. ƿýna. The context evidently requires an infinitive mood.

hīȝ aȝen mod.	190 His own mind;
þæt pær þeah ȝrīðe.	But that was greatly
ȝorȝum ȝebunden.	Bound with sorrows,
ȝor þæm eapfoþum.	On account of the troubles
þe him onȝæton.	Which him beset.
Ðræt þa ðȝȝegan men.	195 But the foolish men,
þe þȝȝum ðȝȝcȝæftum.	Who in these enchantments
long lȝȝdon.	Long believed
leaȝum ȝpellum.	Through false tales,
ȝȝȝon hȝæþȝe.	Knew nevertheless,
þæt ꝥ ȝeȝit ne mæȝ.	200 That no man could
mod onpenðan.	Change the intellect,—
monna ænȝ.	<i>The</i> mind
mið ðȝȝcȝæftum.	By sorceries:
þeah hio ȝedon meahte.	Though they may cause
þæt þa lichoman.	205 That the bodies
lange þȝaȝe.	A long while
onpenð ȝurðon.	Should be changed.
Iȝ ꝥ ȝundorlic.	Wonderful is that
mæȝen cȝæft micel.	Great sovereign power,
moda ȝehȝilceȝ.	210 Of every mind
oȝeȝ lichoman.	Above the body
lænne ȝ ȝænne.	Frail and sluggish!
ðȝȝlcum ȝ ȝȝȝlcum.	By these and such like things,
þu meaht ȝȝeotole onȝitan.	Thou mayest clearly perceive,
þæt pær lichoman.	215 That of the body
hȝtaȝ ȝ cȝæftaȝ.	<i>The</i> powers and faculties,
oȝ þæm mode cumað.	From the mind come

monna gehwylcum.	To every man,
ænleppa ælc.	Each separately.
Ðu meahst eaðe ongytan.	220 Thou mayest easily perceive
þæt te ma ðeneð.	That <i>the</i> mind's vice
monna gehwylcum.	Is more injurious
moder unþear.	To every man,
þonne mettrumner.	Than the infirmity
læner lichoman.	225 Of the frail body.
Ne þearf leoda nan.	Nor needs any man
penan þære wyrðe.	Expect that event,
þæt þ þerige flæsc.	That the vile flesh
þæt mod.*	The mind
monna æniger.	230 Of any man,
eallunga to him.	Altogether to it
æfre mæg onpendan.	Should ever turn;
ac þa unþearf.	But the vices
ælcer moder.	Of every mind,
and þ ingeþonc.	235 And the thought
ælcer monner.	Of every man,
þone lichoman lit.	Leads the body
þider hit wile.	Whither it will.

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\* This line is defective.

## METRE XXVII.\*

Ðpý ge æfre rcýlen.	WHY will ye ever
unriht-ƿiounzum.	With unjust hatred
eoper mod ðneƿan.	Your mind trouble,
ƿpa ƿpa mepe flodeſ.	As the ocean's
ýþa hƿeƿað.	5 Waves lift up
ıſ-calde ƿæ.	<i>The</i> ice-cold sea,
ƿecggað ƿon ƿinde.	<i>And</i> agitate <i>it</i> through the wind?
Ðpý oðƿite ge.	Why upbraid ye
ƿýnde eoppe.	Your fortune,
þæt hıo geƿealb naƿað.	10 That she no power possesses?
Ðpý ge þær deaþeſ.	Why cannot ye now wait
þe eop Ðrihten geſceop.	For the bitter state
gebıdan ne maƿon.	Of that death,
bitneſ gecýndeſ.	Which for you <i>the</i> Lord ordained;
nu he eop ælce ðæg.	15 Now he each day
onet toƿeaƿð.	Hastens towards you?
Ne maƿon ge geſıon.	Cannot ye see
þæt he ƿýmle ƿpýneð.	That he is always seeking
æfteƿ æghƿelcum.	After every
eopþan tuðpe.	20 Earthly offspring,
ðıopum ı ƿuglum.	Beasts and birds?
deað eac ƿpa ƿame.	Death also in like manner

\* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iv. Quid tantos juvat excitare motus, &amp;c.

ærter mon-cýnne.	After mankind <i>seeks</i> ,
geond þýrne mýððan gearð.	Throughout this middle earth,
egeþlic hunta.	25 Terrific hunter !
abit on paðe.	<i>And</i> devours in pursuit.
nýle he ænig ſpæð.	He will not any track
æfre forlætæn.	Ever forsake,
ær he gehede.	Until he has seized
þæt he hpile ær.	30 That which he before
ærter ſpýneðe.	Sought after.
Iſ þ eapmlic þing.	It is a wretched thing,
þæt hý gebýðan ne maðon.	That citizens
bunð-ſittende.	Cannot wait for him ;
ungeþælige men.	85 Unhappy men
hine ær pillað.	Are rather desirous
foran toſciotan.	To anticipate him.
ſpa ſpa fugla cýn.	As birds,
oððe pilðu dýor.	Or wild beasts,
þa pinnað betpuh.	40 When they contend,
æghþýlc polde.	Each one would
oþer acpellan.	<i>The</i> other destroy.
Ac þæt iſ unriht.	But it is wicked,
æghpelcum men.	In every man,
þæt he oþerne.	45 That he another,
inriht-þoncum.	With his thoughts,
ſioðe on fæpðe.	Should hate in his breast,
ſpa ſpa fugel oððe dýor.	Like a bird or beast.
Ac þæt pæne rihtor.	But it would be most right,
þæt te pinca gehþýlc.	50 That every man
oþrum gulde.	Should render to other

edlean on riht.	Dwellers in the world,
peopc be ȝeƿeophtum.	Reward proportionable
peopulð-buendum.	To his deserts,
þinga ȝehƿilceȝ.	55 In every thing :
þæt iȝ ꝥ he luƿiȝe.	That is, that he should love
ȝoðra ȝehƿilcne.	Every one of the good,
ȝpa he ȝeoƿnoȝt mæȝe.	As he best may ;
miðȝiȝe ýrlum.	<i>And</i> have mercy on <i>the</i> wicked,
ȝpa ƿe [æȝ]ʳ ȝƿræcon.	60 As we [before] said.
Ðe ȝceal þone monnan.	He should the man
mode luƿian.	With his mind love,
and hiȝ unþeapȝ.	And his vices
ealle hatian.	All hate,
and ofȝniþan.	65 And destroy,
ȝpa he ȝƿiþoȝt mæȝe.	As he soonest may.

## METRE XXVIII.\*

Ðpa iȝ on eoþan nu.	Who is now on earth
unlæƿðra.	Of <i>the</i> unlearned,
þe ne ƿunðriȝe.	That does not wonder at
ƿolcna ƿænelðeȝ.	<i>The</i> motion of <i>the</i> clouds,
ƿoðneȝ ȝƿiȝto.	5 <i>The</i> swiftness 'of <i>the</i> sky,

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ʳ The alliteration required this insertion, which is sanctioned by the prose text.

\* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. v. Si quis arcturi sidera nescit, &c.

nýne tunglo.	<i>And the course of the stars ;</i>
hu hý ælce dæge.	How they each day
utan ýmbhpepfeð.	Revolve about
eallne middan gearð.	All <i>the</i> middle earth ?
hwa is mon-cýnner.	10 Who is there of mankind,
þæt ne pundrie ýmb.	That does not wonder about
þaþ plitegan tungl.	These splendid stars ;
hu hý rume habbað.	How some of them have
griðe micle.	Very much
rcýrtan ýmbhepærft.	15 Shorter circuits ;
rume rcniþað leng.	<i>And</i> some wander far
utan ýmb eall þis.	Beyond all this ?
an þara tungla. <sup>a</sup>	One of those stars
populð-men hatað.	Worldly men call
pæner þisla. <sup>b</sup>	20 The waggon's shafts.
þa habbað rcýrtan.	These have a shorter
rcniðe and ræpelð.	Revolution and course,
ýmbhepærft lærran.	A less circuit
þonne oþru tungl.	Than other stars ;
forþæm hi þære eaxe.	25 Because they turn
utan ýmbhpepfeð.	About the axis,
þone norð-ende.	<i>And</i> near the north pole
nean ýmbcepfeð.	Revolve.
on þære ilcan.	On the same
eaxe hpepfeð.	30 Axis turns

<sup>a</sup> tungel literally signifies a star or planet ; but it may also be used to denote a constellation. I have translated it star ; and the same latitude may be given to that as is given to tungel.

<sup>b</sup> Called also Ursa major.

eall nūma nōðor.	All <i>the</i> spacious sky ;
nece ne rēpēð.	<i>It</i> quickly revolves,
ruð-heald rēpēð.	And swiftly southwards
rēpēt untioriz.	Moves incessantly.
hwa is on worulde.	35 Who is there in the world,
þæt ne wāzge.	That is not astonished,
buton þa ane.	(Except those alone,
þe hit ær wissor.	Who knew it before,)
þæt mænig tungol.	That many stars
manan ymbhryrret.	40 A greater circuit
hafað on heofonum.	Have in the heavens ;
rume hwile eft.	Sometimes again,
læsse gelīfað.	They move in a less,
þa þe lacað ymb eaxe ende.	That sport about the end of the axis.
oððe micle mape.	45 Or else much more
geferað þa hīe mid ope.	They travel about the middle region,
ymb e þearfe þrægeð.	Swiftly run round.
þara is gehaten.	Of these one
saturnus sum.	Is called Saturn,
re hæfð ymb þrītiz.	50 Which has revolved
rinter-gerimez.	Round the world
weoruld ymbcýrped.	In about thirty winters.
Bootes eac.	Also Bootes
beorhte rcineð.	Shines bright,
oþer rēorpa cýmeð.	55 Another star <i>which</i> comes
efne swa same.	Even the same,
on þone ilcan rēde.	To the same station again,
eft ymb þrītiz.	In about
gear-gerimez.	Thirty years,



þær hi ȝio þa pær.	60 Where he before was.
Ðpa iſ peopulð-monna.	Who is there of worldly men,
þæt ne paſige.	That is not astonished
hu ȝume ȝteorpan.	How some stars
oð þa ȝæ ȝanað.	Go to the sea,
under mepe-ȝtreamaſ.	65 Under the ocean
þær þe monnum þincð.	As it seems to men?
Ðpa eac ȝume penað.	So also some suppose,
þæt ȝio ȝunne ðo.	That the sun does.
ac ȝe pena mȝ.	But the opinion is not
puhte þe ȝoþra.	70 Aught the more true.
Ne bið hio on æfen.	She is not in the evening,
ne on ær-morgen.	Nor early in the morning,
mepe-ȝtreama þa neap.	Nearer <i>the</i> ocean,
þe on midne ðæg.	Than at mid-day;
and þeah monnum þyncð.	75 And yet it appears to men,
þæt hio on mepe ȝange.	That she goes into <i>the</i> water,
under ȝæ ȝriſe.	Under <i>the</i> sea wanders,
þonne hio on ȝetl ȝlideð.	When she to her setting glides.
Ðpa iſ on peopulðe.	Who is there in the world,
þæt ne. punðriȝe.	80 That does not wonder at
ȝulleſ monan.	The full moon,
þonne he ȝæriȝa.	When he suddenly
ȝȝrð under polcnum.	Is under the clouds
pliteſ bepeaſað.	Bereaved of his splendour,
beþeaht mið þioſtrum.	85 Covered with darkness?
Ðpa þeȝna ne mæȝe.	Who of men can avoid
eac paſian.	Also wondering at
ælceſ ȝtorpan.	Every star?

hpȳ hī ne ȳcinen.	Why they do not shine
ȳcīpum pederum.	90 In clear weather
berōpan þære ȳnnan.	Before the sun,
ȳpa hī ȳmle doð.	As they always do
mīddel nihtum.	At midnight,
pīð þone monan ȳpan.	In the presence of <i>the</i> moon,
hadpum heorone.	95 In the serene heaven?
Ðpæt nu hæleþa ȳela.	Why do many men
ȳpelceȳ and ȳpelceȳ.	At such and the like
ȳpīðe punðpīað.	Greatly wonder ;
and ne punðpīað.	And do not wonder
þæt te puhta ȳehpīlc.	100 That everything,
men and netenu.	Men and beasts,
mīcelne habbað.	Have a great
and unnetne.	And unprofitable
andan betpeoh him.	Enmity between them,
ȳpīðe ȳngalne.	105 Continually ?
īȳ þ̅ȳ ȳellic þīncȳ.	It is an extraordinary thing
þæt hī ne punðpīað.	That they do not wonder
hu hīc on polcnum oȳt.	How it in the clouds often
þearple þunpīað.	Loudly thunders ;
þpāȳ-mælum eȳt.	110 <i>And</i> again at intervals
anȳoplæteð.	Ceases ?
and eac ȳpa ȳame.	And likewise,
ȳð pīð lande.	<i>The</i> wave <i>against the</i> land
ealneȳ pīnneð.	Always contends ;
pīnð pīð pāȳe.	115 And <i>the</i> wind against <i>the</i> ocean.
Ðpa punðpīað þæȳ.	Who wonders at this ?
oððe oþpeȳ eȳt.	Or again at another <i>thing</i> .

hpȳ þæt ȳr mæge.	How that ice may be
peorþan of pætere.	Formed from water?
plite tophht ȳcineð.	120 Splendid in beauty shines
ȳrunna ȳpegle hat.	<i>The</i> sun hot in the sky;
ȳona ȳceppneð.	<i>And</i> the pure ice
ȳr mepe ænlic.	Soon turns
on hȳr aȳen ȳecȳnð.	To its own nature,
peorþeð to pætre.	125 And is changed to water.
Ne þinceð ꝥ pundor micel.	That does not seem a great wonder,
monna ænegum.	To any man,
þæt he mæge ȳereon.	Which he may see
ðogona ȳehpilce.	Every day;
ac þæt ðȳre folc.	130 But this foolish people
þær hit ȳelðon ȳerhð.	At that which it seldom sees
ȳriþor pundriað.	More wonders:
þeah hit ȳirra ȳehpæm.	Though to every one of <i>the</i> wise
pundor þince.	It appears
on hȳr mod-ȳepan.	135 In his mind
micle lærre.	A much less wonder.
Under-ȳtaþolpærte.	Unstable <i>persons</i>
ealneȳ penað.	Always think,
þæt ꝥ eald ȳerceaft.	That what they seldom see
æfne ne pæne.	140 Was not ever,—
þæt hi ȳelðon ȳerioð.	An old creation;
ac ȳriþor ȳiet.	But moreover,
peoruld-men penað.	Worldly men think
þæt hit pear come.	That it came by chance,
nipan ȳerælbæ.	145 Newly happened;
ȳi hiona nængum.	If to none of them,

hƿȳlc ær ne oþeopðe.	Such before appeared not.
īƿ ꝥ eapmlic þinc.	This is a wretched thing!
Ac Ʒīƿ hioþa ænīƷ.	But if any of them
æƿne peopþeð.	150 Ever became,
to þon ƿīƿpet-Ʒeopn.	So far inquisitive,
þæt he ƿela onƷīnð.	That he begins to learn
leopnīan līƷta.	Many sciences,
and him līƿeƿ ƿeapð.	And for him <i>the</i> guardian of life
of mode abƿīƷ.	155 From <i>his</i> mind removes
þæt mīcle ðȳīƷ.	That great ignorance,
þæt hīƷ oƿeƿƿīƷen mīð.	With which overshadowed
ƿunode lange.	It long remained;
þonne īc ƿæt Ʒeapne.	Then I well know,
þ hī ne ƿunðīað.	160 That he would not wonder at
mænīƷeƿ þīnƷeƿ.	Many a thing,
þe monnum nu.	Which to men now
ƿæƿþo ȳ ƿunðeƿ.	Extraordinary and wonderful
ƿel hƿæƿ þīnƷeð.	Everywhere appears.

METRE XXIX.<sup>c</sup>

ȴīƿ þu nu ƿīlnīƷe.	If thou now desirest
peopulð-Dīhtneƿ.	With enlightened mind
heane anƿalð.	<i>The</i> high power
hlutne mode.	Of <i>the</i> world's Lord

<sup>c</sup> Boet. Lib. iv. Met. vi. Si vis celsi jura tonantis, &c.

ongitan gionne. <sup>d</sup>	5 Diligently to behold ;
gemal-mægene.	<i>View</i> the multitude
heofoner tunglu.	Of <i>the</i> stars of heaven ;
hu hi him healdað betpuh.	How they keep between themselves
ribbe ringale.	Perpetual peace,
dýdon ꝥa lange.	10 As they long have done.
ꝥa hi zepenede.	So the chief of glory
pulðner ealðor.	Accustomed them,
æt ꝥrum-ꝥceafte.	At the first creation,
þæt ꝥio ꝥýpene mot.	That the fiery sun
ꝥun ne zerecan.	15 Should not approach
ꝥnap cealðer peꝥ.	<i>The</i> way of <i>the</i> cold snow,
monna gemæpo.	<i>The</i> boundaries of the moon.
Ðpæt þa mæpan tungl.	These splendid stars indeed
auþer oþner þene.	Each other's course
á ne zehpneð.	20 Never touch,
æp þam ꝥ oþer.	Before the other
oꝥzepteð.	Goes away.
Ne hupu ꝥe ꝥteorpa.	Nor will the star
zeꝥtigan pīe.	At all ascend
peꝥt-dæl polcna.	25 The west part of the sky,
þone pīe men.	Which wise men
Uꝥpa nemnað.	Call Ursa.
Ealle ꝥtiorpan.	All stars
ꝥiꝥað æꝥter ꝥunnan.	Descend after <i>the</i> sun,
ꝥamod mið þodepe.	30 Together with <i>the</i> sky,
under eorþan zꝥrund.	Under <i>the</i> bottom of <i>the</i> earth.

<sup>d</sup> MS. gionne.

he ana ƿtent.	He alone stands still.
nīƿ ƿ nan ƿundor.	That is no wonder ;
he īƿ ƿundorūm ƿæƿt.*	He is wonderfully fast
upende neah.	35 Near <i>the</i> upper
eaxe þæƿ ƿodeƿer.	Axis of the sky.
Ðonne īƿ an ƿteorƿa.	Moreover there is one star,
oƿer oþre beorht.	Above others bright ;
cýmeð eaƿtan up.	<i>He</i> comes up from <i>the</i> east
æƿ þonne ƿunne.	40 Before <i>the</i> sun ;
þone <sup>f</sup> monna beaƿn.	Which the children of men,
monƿen-ƿtorƿa hatað.	Under the heavens,
under heoronum.	Call <i>the</i> morning star ;
ƿorþæm he hæleþum ðæƿ.	Because he to men
bodað æƿter burƿum.	45 Announces day through cities ;
þƿenƿeð æƿter.	<i>And</i> brings after <i>him</i>
ƿƿeƿeltoƿht ƿunne.	The heavenly bright sun,
ƿamað eallum ðæƿ.	In like manner every day.
īƿ ƿe ƿorƿýnel.	The fore-runner is
ƿæƿer and ƿcīene.	50 Fair and shining ;
cýmeð eaƿtan up.	Comes from the east up
æƿƿor <sup>g</sup> ƿunnan.	Before <i>the</i> sun ;
and eƿt æƿter ƿunnan.	And again after the sun,
on ƿetl ƿlīdeð.	Glides to <i>his</i> seat,
ƿeƿt under ƿeorulde.	55 West under <i>the</i> world.
ƿeƿ-þīoda hīƿ.	Mankind change
nomān onƿendað.	His name,

\* MS. eaƿt.

<sup>f</sup> MS. þonne.<sup>g</sup> MS. æƿt ƿor.

þonne niht cýmeð.	When night comes ;
hatað hine ealle.	<i>And</i> all call him
æfen-ŕtiorpa.	60 <i>The</i> evening star.
ŕe bið þæŕe ŕunnan ŕŕiŕtŕa.	He is swifter than the sun,
ŕiðþan hi on ŕetl ȝepitað.	<i>And</i> after she departs to <i>her</i> seat,
oŕŕneð.	Outruns <i>her</i> :
þæt iŕ æþele tungol.	That is a noble star,—
oð ꝥ he be eaŕtan peoŕþeð.	65 Until he in <i>the</i> east
elbum oþeþeð.	Becomes visible to men,
æŕ þonne ŕunne.	Before <i>the</i> sun.
*       *       *	*       *       *
*       *       *	*       *       *
*       *       habbað. <sup>h</sup>	70 *       *       have,
æþele tungol.	A noble star—
emne ȝeðæleð.	Equally divided
ðæg ȝ nihte.	<i>The</i> day and night,
Dŕihtneŕ meahtum.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power,
ŕunne ȝ mona. <sup>i</sup>	75 <i>The</i> sun and moon,
ŕŕiðe ȝeþŕæne.	Very harmoniously ;
ŕpa him æt ŕŕýmðe.	As to them at the beginning,
ŕæðeŕ ȝetiohhode.	<i>The</i> Father appointed.
Ne þeaŕŕt þu no penan.	Nor needest thou to think
þæt þa pliteȝan tunȝl.	80 That these beautiful stars
þæŕ þeoŕðomeŕ.	Of this service
aþnoten peoŕðe.	Will be weary

<sup>h</sup> That there is a deficiency here is proved both by the alliteration and prose ; and as the supply would be conjectural, I have merely pointed out the defect.

<sup>i</sup> MS. ŕunna ȝ mone. a is a masculine termination ; therefore, for the reason before mentioned, it cannot be the termination of this word.

æp domep bæge.	Before domesday.
ðeð pīðþan ymbe.	The Author of mankind
moncýnneſ puma.	85 Will afterwards do to <i>them</i> ,
p̃pa him gemet þinceð.	As to him seems meet.
p̃opþon hī he healfe.	Therefore Almighty God
heoponeſ þiſſeſ.	Does not suffer them
on ane ne læt.	To be on one side
ælmih̃tiſ God.	90 Of this heaven,
þ̃y læſ hī op̃pa p̃opðýðen.	Lest they should other
æþela geſceap̃ta.	Noble creatures destroy.
ac ſe eca God.	But the eternal God
ealle <sup>k</sup> gemetgað.	Moderates all
p̃iða geſceap̃ta.	95 <i>The</i> various creatures,
p̃op̃ta geðpepað.	<i>And</i> gently tempers <i>them</i> .
hpilum þæt d̃rige.	Sometimes the dry
d̃riſt þone p̃ætan.	Drives away the wet,
hp̃ylum hī gemengeð.	Sometimes mix together,
metodeſ c̃p̃æp̃te.	100 Cold with heat,
c̃ile p̃ið hæto.	By the Creator's skill.
hpilum ceppneð ep̃t.	Sometimes again returns
on up p̃oðop̃.	Up to the sky,
æl beophta leſ.	The all bright flame,
leoht l̃ýp̃te.	105 Light in air,
liſeð him behindan.	<i>And</i> behind it lies
heſiſ h̃p̃uſan ðæl.	<i>The</i> heavy mass of earth;
þeah hit hpilan æp̃.	Though it sometimes before
eopðe p̃io cealde.	The cold earth

<sup>k</sup> MS. ealla.



on inna hipe.	110 Within itself
heold 7 hýðde.	Held and hid,
halizeȝ meahtum.	By the power of <i>the</i> Holy One.
Be þæȝ cýningeȝ ȝebode.	By the King's command,
cýmeð ȝeapa ȝehpæm.	It comes every year,
eoꝛðe bꝛingeð.	115 <i>That the</i> earth brings forth
æȝhpýlc tudor.	Every production ;
and ȝe hata ȝumor.	And the hot summer,
hæleþa beapnum.	To <i>the</i> children of men,
ȝeapa ȝehpílce.	Every year,
ȝiepeð 7 ðꝛizeð.	120 Prepares and dries
ȝeond ȝidne ȝrund.	Through <i>the</i> wide ground,
ȝæð and bleða.	Seeds and fruits :
hæȝfeȝ to honða.	Harvest to <i>the</i> hands
heȝ buendum.	Of dwellers here,
ȝiȝa ȝeceð.	125 Bestows sheaves.
ȝen æȝteȝ þæm.	Rain afterwards,
ȝpýlce haȝal 7 ȝnap.	Also hail and snow,
hpuræn leccað.	Water <i>the</i> earth,
on ȝintȝeȝ tīð.	In time of winter,—
ȝeðeȝ unhioȝe.	130 Tempestuous weather.
ȝoȝ þæm eoꝛðe onȝehð.	Hence <i>the</i> earth receives
eallum ȝæðum.	All seeds,
ȝeðeð ꝥ hī ȝꝛoȝað.	Makes that they grow.
ȝeapa ȝehpílce.	Every year,
on lencten tīð.	135 In spring time,
leap up ȝꝛpȝttað.	Leaves sprout up.
ac ȝe mīlda metoð.	But the merciful Creator,
monna beapnum.	For <i>the</i> children of men,

on eorþan ƿet.  
 eall ꝥ te Ʒroƿeð.  
 ƿæƷtmar on ƿeopoldē.  
 ƿel ƿorðbrengeð hit.  
 þonne he ƿile.  
 heƿona ƿaldend.  
 and eopað eƿt.  
 eorð-buendum.  
 nimð þonne he ƿile.  
 neƷgende Ġod.  
 and ꝥ hehƷte Ʒood.  
 on heah Ʒetle.  
 Ʒiteð Ʒelf cýning.  
 and þioƷ Ʒide ƷeƷceafƷ.  
 þenað and þioƿað.  
 he þone anƿaldeð.  
 þæm Ʒeƿeltleþnum.  
 ƿeopuld ƷeƷceafƷta.  
 NiƷ ꝥ nan ƿundop.  
 he iƷ ƿeƿoda Ġod.  
 cýning and Drihten.  
 cƿuceƿa ƷehƿelceƷ.  
 æƿelm Ʒ Ʒƿuma.  
 eallƷa ƷeƷceafƷta.  
 ƿýƷhta Ʒ Ʒceppend.  
 ƿeopulde þiƷƷe.  
 ƿiƷdom and æ.  
 ƿopuld-buendƷa.

In *the* earth nourishes  
 140 All fruits which  
 Grow in *the* world;  
 Well brings it forth,  
 When he will,  
 Ruler of *the* heavens;  
 145 And moreover shews *it*  
 To *the* inhabitants of earth;  
 When he will  
*The* Redeeming God takes away.  
 And this Highest Good  
 150 On his throne  
 Sitteth, a self king;  
 And this wide creation  
 Serves and obeys *him*.  
 He rules it  
 155 With *his* reins,—  
 Worldly creatures.  
 That is no wonder,  
 He is the God of hosts,  
 King and Lord  
 160 Of each of *the* living;  
*The* fountain and origin  
 Of all creatures;  
*The* Maker and Creator  
 Of this world;  
 165 *The* wisdom and law  
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* world.

Ealle <sup>1</sup> ġerceapra.	All creatures
on hærendo.	On <i>his</i> errands <i>go</i> ;
hio nane ne ġendað.	He sendeth none
þæt eft cumað.	170 That again turn back.
ġif he ġpa ġertæðþiġ.	If he so stable
ne ġtaþolade.	Did not establish
ealle ġerceapra. <sup>m</sup>	All creatures,
æġhpȳlc hioþa.	Each of them
þraðe toġtencte.	175 Would quickly
þeoþþan ġceolden.	Have been dispersed ;
æġhpȳlc hioþa.	Each of them
ealle to nauhte.	Entirely to nothing
þeoþþan ġceoldon.	Would have come,
þraðe toġloþena.	180 Quickly dissolved.
þeah þa ane luþe.	But all creatures
ealle <sup>n</sup> ġerceapra.	Of heaven and earth
heoþoneġ ȡ eoþþan.	Have one
hæbþen ġemæne.	Common love,
þæt hi þioþien.	185 That they should serve
ġpȳlcum þioð-ġþuman.	Such a Creator.
and þæġniað þ̅.	And rejoice that
hioþa þæðen þalbeð.	<i>The</i> Father rules them.
niġ þ̅ nan þundoþ.	That is no wonder ;
þoþþæm þuhta nan.	190 Because no thing
æþne ne meahte.	Could ever
eller þunian.	Else exist ;
ġif hi eall mæġene.	If they all with <i>their</i> power

<sup>1</sup> MS. ealla.<sup>m</sup> MS. ealla ġerceapra.

hiora orð-ƿruman.  
ne þioroden.  
þeodne mærum.

Their author  
195 Did not serve,  
*The illustrious Lord!*

METRE XXX.<sup>o</sup>

Omeruƿ ƿær.  
eaƿt mid Enecum.  
on þæm leodƿipe.  
leoþa cƿæƿtƿaƿt.  
Firgilier.  
ƿneond ƿ lapeop.  
þæm mæran ƿceope.  
maƿiƿtƿa beƿt.  
Hƿæt ƿe Omeruƿ.  
oƿt and ƿelome.  
þæƿe ƿunnan ƿlite.  
ƿƿiðe heƿede.  
æþelo cƿæƿtaƿ.  
oƿt and ƿelome.  
leoþum ƿ ƿpellum.  
leodum neahte.  
ne mæƿ hio þeah ƿercinan.  
þeah hio ƿe ƿcƿiƿ ƿ beoƿht.

HOMER was  
Among *the* eastern Greeks,  
In that country,  
*The* most skilful of poets;  
5 Of Virgil  
*The* friend and teacher,  
To that illustrious bard  
*The* best of masters.  
But Homer  
10 Very frequently  
Greatly praised  
*The* splendour of the sun;  
*And her* noble virtues,  
Very frèquently,  
15 In songs and speeches,  
To *the* people related.  
She cannot nevertheless shine,  
Though she be pure and bright,

<sup>o</sup> Boet. Lib. v. Met. ii. Puro clarum lumine Phœbum  
Mellifui canit oris Homerus, &c.

ahpærzen <sup>p</sup> neah.	Everywhere near
ealle <sup>q</sup> ȝerȝeafta.	20 All creatures ;
ne fupþum þa ȝerȝeafta.	Nor further, the creatures
þe hio ȝerȝinan mæg.	Which she can illuminate
endemeȝ ne mæg.	Can she equally
ealle <sup>r</sup> ȝeondlihtan.	All enlighten
innan and utan.	25 Within and without.
Ac ȝe ælmihteȝa.	But the Almighty
palðend ȝ ȝȝhta.	Ruler and Maker
peopulde ȝerȝeafta.	Of worldly creatures,
hiȝ agen peopc.	His own work
eall ȝeondpliteð.	30 All over illuminates,
endemeȝ þuþȝȝhð.	<i>And</i> equally sees through
ealle <sup>s</sup> ȝerȝeafta.	All creatures.
Ðæt iȝ ȝio ȝoðe.	That is the true
ȝunne mid ȝihte be þæm.	Sun of whom rightly
pe maȝon ȝinȝan.	35 We may sing
ȝȝȝlc butan leaȝe.	Thus without falsehood.

METRE XXXI.<sup>t</sup>

Ðpæt þu meaht onȝitan.	TRULY thou mayest know,
ȝiȝ hiȝ þe ȝeman lȝȝt.	If it lists thee to attend,

<sup>p</sup> Lye has no authority for ahpærzen, except this passage: the line should probably be ahpær ȝeneah.

<sup>q</sup> MS. ealla.

<sup>r</sup> MS. ealla.

<sup>s</sup> MS. ealla.

<sup>t</sup> Boet. Lib. v. Met. v. Quam variis terras animalia permeant figuris, &c.

þæt te mīrlice.	That various
manega puhta.	And many things
geond eorþan fapað.	5 Over <i>the</i> earth go
ungelice.	Differently :
habbað blioh 7 færbu.	<i>And</i> have colours, and forms,
ungelice.	And species
and mæg-plitar.	Unlike.
manegna cýnna."	10 Of many kinds
cuð and uncuð.	Known and unknown,
cneopað 7 ȝnicað.	<i>The</i> whole body
eall lichoma.	Creeps and crawls,
eorþan getenȝe.	Incumbent on <i>the</i> earth ;
nabbað hi æt riþrum fultum.	They have no help from wings,
ne magon hi mid fotum	Nor can they with feet go,
eorþan brucan.	[ȝangan. <i>And</i> enjoy <i>the</i> earth,
ȝpa him eaden pær.	As was ordained for them.
ȝume fotum tƿam.	Some with two feet
Foldan peðpað.	20 Tread <i>the</i> ground,
ȝume ƿier-ƿete.	Some with four feet ;
ȝume fleoȝende.	Some flying
ƿindeð under polcnum.	Circle under <i>the</i> clouds.
Bið þeah puhta ȝehƿilc.	Yet every thing is
onhnȝen to hƿuȝan.	25 Inclined to the ground ;
hnipað of dune.	Downward bends,
on ƿeopulð pliteð.	Looks on <i>the</i> world ;
ƿilnað to eorþan.	Tends towards <i>the</i> earth ;
ȝume ned-þearfe.	Some through necessity,

ƿume neod-ƿræce.	30 Some voluntarily.
man ana ƿæð.	Man alone goeth,
metodeƿ ƿerceanƿta.	Of <i>the</i> Maker's creatures,
mið hƿ andƿlitan.	With his countenance
up on ƿerhte.	Upright.
Mid þȳ iƿ ƿetacnoð.	85 By that is betokened,
þæt hƿ tƿeopa ƿceal.	That his trust shall,
and hƿ mod-ƿeponc.	And his mind,
ma up þonne niþer.	More upwards than downwards
habban to heoƿonum.	Aspire to <i>the</i> heavens.
þȳ læƿ he hƿ hiƿe penðe.	40 Unless he his mind should bend
niþer ƿƿa þæƿ nȳten.	Downwards like the beasts.
Niƿ <sup>w</sup> þ ƿeðapenlic.	It is not seemly
þæt ƿe mod-ƿeƿa.	That the mind
monna æniƿer.	Of any man
niþer-healð ƿeƿe.	45 Should be downwards,
and þæt neð uppeaƿð.	And his face upwards.

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<sup>w</sup> MS. Iƿ. The reading in the MS. may be rendered interrogatively; but the alliteration requires the negative verb.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES.

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*Note 1. Page 3, line 1. Ður Ælfræd ur.*

This introduction, which was prefixed to the Cottonian MS. alluded to in the Preface, is evidently not the production of Alfred himself; but it is an additional proof, if any were wanting, that he was the translator of Boethius, and the author of the Metrical Version. What is usually called the prose version of Boethius, contains the metres, but the translation is not in verse, although from the nature of the subject it nearly approaches poetry. Alfred, it is supposed, wrote this portion when harassed with those "various and manifold worldly occupations, which often busied him both in mind and in body," of which he so feelingly complains. And when he had overcome the difficulties which beset him, it is supposed that he reduced the translation of the Metres to that form, in which they have been handed down to us: being at once a monument of royal industry, and a pure specimen of the poetry of the Anglo-Saxons.

*Note 2. Page 5, Metre 1.*

What I have termed Metre I. is rather an original introduction of Alfred to the subsequent poem. The work of Boethius commences with a metre relative to his misfortunes, without alluding to the immediate cause of them:

"Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi,  
Flebilis, heu, mæstos cogor inire modos.

As the whole of the Anglo-Saxon Metres are too paraphrastic to be strictly called translations, I considered it would be the simplest plan to number them from this.



*Note 3. Page 6, line 25. līnð-ƿigenðe.*

Literally, fighting under shields made of the linden tree. Līnð is explained by Lye in its primary signification as the linden tree—*tilia arbor*: and in its secondary or metaphorical sense he renders it, *labarum et vexillum*; in which sense it is also rendered, *scutum*. A similar metaphorical use is made of the word ærc, *fraxinus*. It generally signifies a spear, or javelin; i. e. a weapon made of ash.

*Note 4. Page 6, line 33. Ða ƿær Romana ƿice Ʒeƿunnen.*

For an account of the capture of Rome by the Goths under the command of Alaric, the reader is referred to the thirty-first chapter of Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, where many of the allusions in this Metre are explained.

*Note 5. Page 7, line 49. halize aƿær.*

This passage probably refers to the transference of the purple from Honorius to Attalus.

*Note 6. Page 7, line 59. Ðeodƿice.*

The exploits of Theodoric are related by Gibbon in his thirty-ninth chapter; in which he also gives the history of Boethius; and describes at length his eloquence, learning, and liberality, as well as the misfortunes he encountered, and the death in which they terminated.

*Note 7. Page 8, line 80. Appianer Ʒeðƿola.*

Many of the Goths, according to the historians of those days, were inclined to the Arian heresy.

*Note 8. Page 14, line 1. Æala þu Ʒcƿend.*

This Metre, which contains an address to the Deity, is a happy production of Alfred's muse. With regard to Mr. Turner's observation, that Alfred's prose translation of the Metres has more intellectual energy than his verse, it may be remarked, that Alfred is not singular in this respect. We usually find much greater energy in blank verse than in poetry which is fettered with rhyme. This may be strikingly exem-

plified by taking one of the poems ascribed to Ossian, and reducing it to the regular laws of verse. Mr. Turner, however, does justice to our author, by saying, "there is an infusion of moral mind and a graceful ease of diction in the writings of Alfred, which we shall look for in vain, to the same degree and effect, among the other remains of Anglo-Saxon poetry."

*Note 9. Page 19, line 1. Ðu meaht be þære runnan.*

The first six lines of this Metre in Junius and Rawlinson are not pointed, although they clearly admit of metrical arrangement. This also occurs in other metres.

*Note 10. Page 29, line 26. Sunð-buende.*

Sailors; literally, dwellers on the sea; as *eorð-buende* signifies dwellers on the earth: *populð-buende*, dwellers in the world. *Sunð*, in its first acceptation, is swimming; in its second, the sea. Hence is derived the name of the Sound to the strait between Sweden and Denmark.

*Note 11. Page 30, line 59. eap-geblonð.*

This word, which Junius and Rawlinson have written *eapge-blond*, merely signifies the sea; although in the supplement to Lye it is rendered, *maris commistio*.

*Note 12. Page 40, line 66. Velander ban.*

For an account of Weland, see Cardale's Boethius, p. 416.

*Note 13. Page 51, line 5. feapn 7 þopnar 7 fýrrar.*

The names by which these plants are commonly known vary but little from the Anglo-Saxon. A similar affinity of language is very evident in most of our rural districts.

*Note 14. Page 71, line 1. Eala min Drihten.*

This metre contains another address to the Deity, which, like the former one, is extremely beautiful. The Latin metre is so amplified, that it may be considered an original composition.

*Note 15. Page 111, Metre xxvi.*

In this metre the story of Ulysses and Circe is related. In chap. 35, sect. 6 of the prose, the account of Orpheus and Eurydice is introduced, which, although devoid of regular alliteration, is nevertheless very poetical.

*Note 16. Page 112, line 15. Retie.*

Retia is a corruption of Neritia, a name derived from Neritos, a mountain in Ithaca, and sometimes applied to the whole island. See Cardale's Notes, 147 and 189.

*Note 17. Page 114, line 61. Wendel-ŕæ.*

Wendel sea. The whole of the Mediterranean sea, as well as particular parts of it, was called by the Saxons the Wendel sea. The name is derived from *windan*, to wind.

*Note 18. Page 132, line 71. æþele tungol.*

The difficulty which lies in this passage cannot be removed by putting *æþele tungol* in apposition with *runne ȝ mona*. in the first place, because *tungol* is of the singular number; and secondly, because in such apposition *runne ȝ mona* should occur first. It is to be feared the loss of the Cottonian MS. renders the obscurity irremediable.

*Note 19. Page 133, line 83. ær domeŕ dæge.*

Before dome's day. Dome's day signifies the day of judgment; being derived from *ðeman*, to judge. From whence also is derived the verb, to deem, i.e. to form a judgment or opinion.

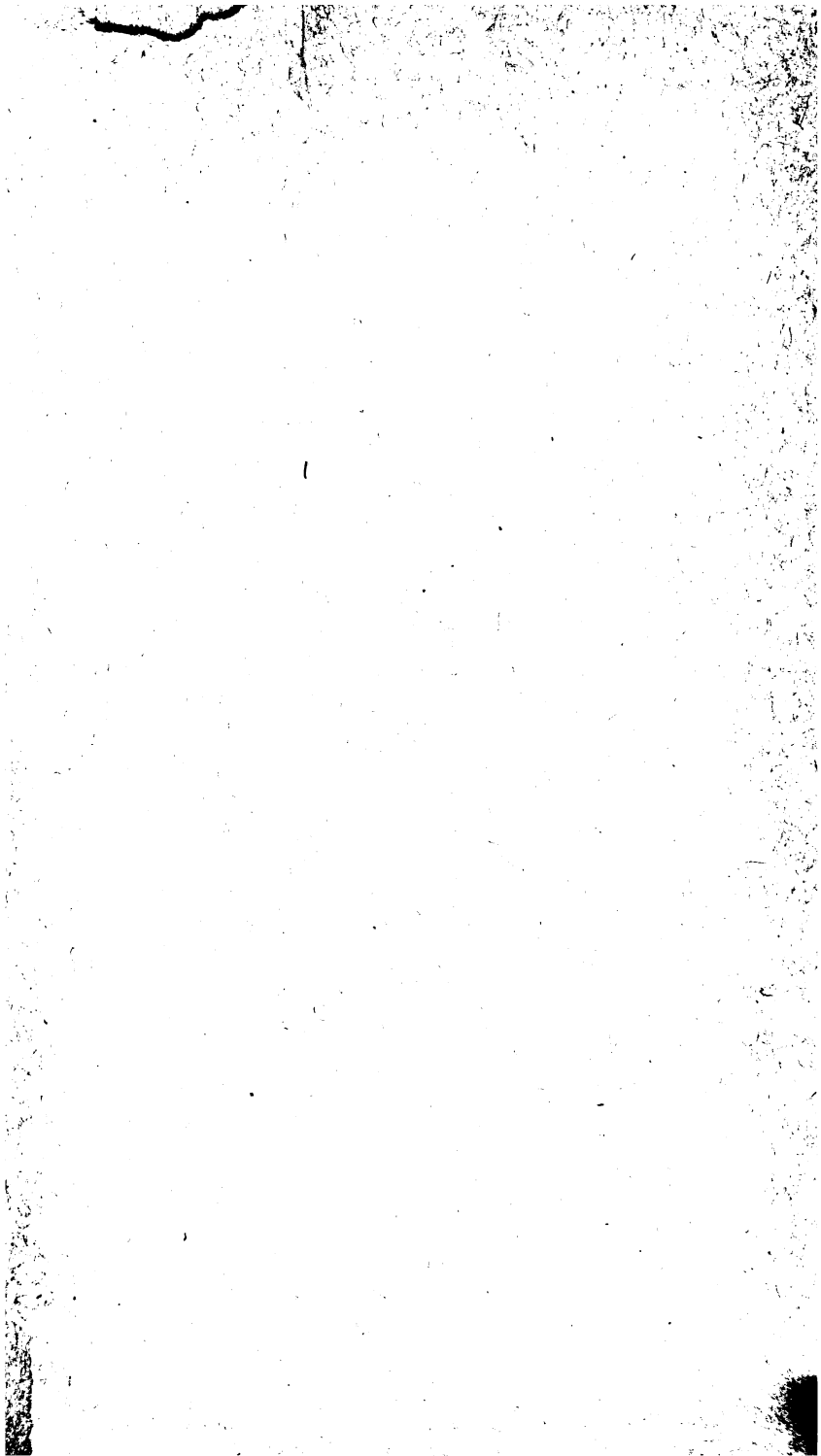
*Note 20. Page 137, line 1. Omeŕur pær.*

The anachronism of which the royal bard was guilty in this metre, is very pardonable. It is surprising that Alfred, amidst the cares and anxieties which oppressed him, should have formed any acquaintance with the celebrated poets of old.

*Handwritten marks:* A large '4' with a '6' next to it, and a signature 'M. J.' to the right.

1





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